United Nations

Report of the Preparatory Committee for the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

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Official Records • Forty-eighth Session
Supplement No. 36 (A/48/36)

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Part One

REPORT OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES ON ITS ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION

Held at United Nations Headquarters
on 15 and 16 April 1993

I. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Preparatory Committee held its organizational session at United Nations Headquarters on 15 and 16 April 1993. The Committee held three meetings.

2. The session was opened by the Under-Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development, who made an introductory statement.

B. Attendance

3. The following States were represented: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Cape Verde, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Guyana, Haiti, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

4. The United Nations Environment Programme was represented.

5. The following specialized agencies were represented: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, World Health Organization, International Monetary Fund, International Maritime Organization and United Nations Industrial Development Organization.

6. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented: Caribbean Community, Commonwealth Secretariat, European Economic Community, Latin American Economic System, Organization of African Unity and South Pacific Regional Environment Programme.

7. The Pan-Africanist Congress of Azania was represented by an observer.

C. Election of officers

8. At its 1st meeting, on 15 April, the Committee elected Mrs. Penelope Wensley (Australia) Chairman of the Committee by acclamation.

9. At the same meeting, the Committee elected by acclamation the following four Vice-Chairmen: Mr. John Ashe (Antigua and Barbuda), Mr. Marian Dinu (Romania), Mr. José Luis Jesus (Cape Verde) and Mr. Takao Shibata (Japan).

10. At the 2nd meeting, on 16 April, Mr. Takao Shibata (Japan) was designated by the Bureau to take on the additional responsibilities of Rapporteur of the Committee.

D. Adoption of the agenda

11. At its 1st meeting, on 15 April, the Committee adopted the provisional agenda contained in document A/CONF.167/PC/1. The agenda was as follows:

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda.

3. Preparations for the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

4. Provisional agenda for the first session of the Preparatory Committee.

II. PREPARATIONS FOR THE GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES

12. The Preparatory Committee considered the question of preparations for the Conference (agenda item 3) jointly with agenda item 4 (see chap. III) at its 1st, 2nd and 3rd meetings, on 15 and 16 April. It had before it the reports of the Secretary-General on the preparations for the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (A/CONF.167/PC/2) and on the draft provisional rules of procedure for the Conference (A/CONF.167/PC/3).

13. At the 1st meeting, on 15 April, the representative of the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the Secretariat made an introductory statement.

14. At the same meeting, the Committee heard statements by the representatives of Colombia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77), Vanuatu (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States), New Zealand (on behalf also of Canada and Australia), Sweden (on behalf of the Nordic countries), Denmark (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community), Singapore, China, the United States of America and Japan.

A. Guidelines for the work of the Preparatory Committee

15. At the 2nd meeting, on 16 April, the Chairman introduced, on behalf of the Bureau, a draft decision entitled "Guidelines for the work of the Preparatory Committee" (A/CONF.167/PC/L.3), which read:

> "The Preparatory Committee for the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States:
>
> "(a) Decides to approach its work taking into account the following guidelines:
>
> "(i) The outcome of the Conference should follow the framework developed in Agenda 21. It should seek not to duplicate Agenda 21 but rather to address the implementation of Agenda 21 in relation to small island developing States. The focus should be on the problems and needs specific to small island developing States;
>
> "(ii) Matters related to specific problems for small island developing States should be addressed at the micro level in relation to each priority area, as outlined in item 3 (b) of the provisional agenda for the Preparatory Committee, rather than at the macro level, as under item 3 (a);
>
> "(iii) Consideration of responsibilities of small island developing States should address:
>
> a. Actions and policies required for environment and development planning, including economic and environmental policy, resource management, legislative framework and endogenous institutions;

b. Elements for inclusion in medium- and long-term sustainable development plans and response strategies;

c. Measures for enhancing endogenous capacity-building;

"(iv) Consideration of responsibilities of regional organizations should involve addressing:

a. Development of regional approaches to sustainable development/environmental problems;

b. Technical cooperation for endogenous capacity-building;

"(v) Consideration of responsibilities of the international community should involve addressing:

a. Access to financial resources for sustainable development,

b. Access to environmentally sound and energy-efficient technology, including delivery mechanisms;

c. Access to resources for endogenous capacity-building;

"(b) Requests the Secretary-General, in preparing the documentation for the substantive session of the Committee, to take into account the above guidelines, as well as, inter alia, the following information:

"(i) National reports submitted during the preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

"(ii) Any supplementary national reports that may be provided by Governments;

"(iii) Relevant reports arising out of regional technical meetings (including input from regional economic, financial and environmental organizations, for example, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Asian Development Bank and the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme;

"(iv) Relevant information provided by organizations of the United Nations system, for example, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Meteorological Organization;

"(v) Reports submitted by other intergovernmental organizations, for example, the Commonwealth Secretariat and the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme;

"(vi) Reports submitted by international financial institutions;

"(vii) Relevant contributions from non-governmental organizations."

16. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Colombia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Denmark (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community), Vanuatu (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States), Japan, Barbados, China, the United States of America, Australia, Brazil, Austria, the Federated States of Micronesia, Sri Lanka, New Zealand, Jamaica, Guinea-Bissau, the Marshall Islands, Grenada, Benin and Singapore.

17. At the 3rd meeting, on 16 April, statements were made by the representatives of Trinidad and Tobago, Samoa, Denmark (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community), Singapore, Vanuatu (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States), France, Australia, Cuba, Brazil, China, Uganda, Bolivia, Norway, Colombia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Canada and Antigua and Barbuda.

18. At the same meeting, the representative of Cuba orally amended the draft decision by replacing the word "responsibilities" with the words "the role" in subparagraphs (a) (iii), (iv) and (v).

19. The representative of Vanuatu, on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States, orally amended the draft decision by deleting the words "should address" at the end of subparagraph (a) (iii) and "should involve addressing" at the end of subparagraphs (a) (iv) and (v).

20. On the basis of proposals made during the discussion, the Chairman revised the draft decision as follows:

(a) Subparagraph (a) (v) a was replaced with the following text:

"a. Access to financial resources and mechanisms in accordance with the provisions of chapter 33 of Agenda 21";

(b) Subparagraph (a) (v) b was replaced by the following text, which was based on paragraph 5 (e) of General Assembly resolution 47/189:

"b. Measures for enhancing the endogenous capacity of small island developing States, in particular the development of human resources and the promotion of access to environmentally sound and energy-efficient technology for sustainable development within such States".

21. At the same meeting, as no agreement could be reached on the formulation of subparagraph (a) (i), the Committee decided to delete the subparagraph on the understanding that it would return to the consideration of the subparagraph at its next session.

22. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft decision as orally amended and revised (see chap. VI, decision 2).

B. Draft provisional rules of procedure for the Conference

23. At its 3rd meeting, on 16 April, the Committee considered the draft provisional rules of procedure for the Conference contained in document A/CONF.167/PC/3.

24. Statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America, Vanuatu (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States), Trinidad and Tobago, Australia, France and New Zealand.

25. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America proposed the addition of a new rule to the provisional rules of procedure, to be inserted between rules 64 and 65, which read:

> "Participation of associate members of regional commissions
>
> "Associate members of regional commissions invited to the Conference may participate as observers, outside the negotiating process and without the right to vote, in the Conference, the Main Committee and, as appropriate, any other committee or working group on questions within the scope of their activities."

26. At the same meeting, the Committee decided to recommend to the Conference the adoption of the provisional rules of procedure, as orally amended (see chap. VI, decision 3).

C. Participation of associate members of regional commissions in the Conference and its preparatory process

27. At the 3rd meeting, on 16 April, the representative of the United States of America proposed a draft decision concerning the participation of associate members of regional commissions.

28. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Trinidad and Tobago, Australia, France and New Zealand.

29. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft decision (see chap. V, decision 1).

D. Participation of non-governmental organizations in the Conference and its preparatory process

30. At the 3rd meeting, on 16 April, the representative of Canada proposed a draft decision entitled "Participation of non-governmental organizations in the Conference and its preparatory process", which read:

> "The Preparatory Committee decides to invite non-governmental organizations to contribute actively to the Conference and its preparatory process in accordance with the procedures followed for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development."

31. At the same meeting, the representative of China amended the draft decision by inserting the words "including major groups" after the words "non-governmental organizations".

32. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft decision, as orally amended (see chap. VI, decision 4).

III. PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FIRST SESSION OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE

33. The Preparatory Committee considered the provisional agenda for its first session (agenda item 4) jointly with agenda item 3 (see chap. II) at its 1st, 2nd and 3rd meetings, on 15 and 16 April. It had before it a note by the Secretariat containing the draft provisional agenda for the first session (A/CONF.167/PC/L.1).

34. At the 1st meeting, on 15 April, the representative of the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development made an introductory statement.

35. At the same meeting, the Committee heard statements by the representatives listed in paragraph 14 above.

36. At the same meeting, the representative of Colombia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a proposal entitled "Draft provisional agenda for the first session of the Preparatory Committee" (A/CONF.167/PC/L.2).

37. Statements were made by the representatives of Vanuatu (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States), Denmark (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community), Barbados, Australia, Cuba and France.

38. At the 2nd meeting, on 16 April, the representative of the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development introduced a note by the Secretariat containing the revised draft provisional agenda for the first session of the Committee (A/CONF.167/PC/L.1/Rev.1), which read:

> "1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
>
> "2. Preparations for the first Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States on the basis of General Assembly resolution 47/189 and taking into account other relevant General Assembly resolutions:
>
> "(a) Activities of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and other bodies of relevance to the preparatory process related to the sustainable development needs of small island developing States in the light of relevant recommendations of Agenda 21;
>
> "(b) Preparations by the host Government;
>
> "(c) Reports from regional technical meetings;
>
> "(d) Participation of non-governmental organizations in the preparatory process;
>
> "(e) Operations of the voluntary fund;
>
> "[(f) Reports of the working groups.]
>
> "3. Consideration of plans and programmes to support the sustainable development of small island developing States and the utilization of their marine and coastal resources, which involve meeting essential

human needs, maintaining biodiversity, and improving the quality of life for island people, as well as measures that will enable small island developing States to cope effectively, creatively and in a sustainable manner with environmental changes and to mitigate the impacts on and reduce the threats posed to marine and coastal resources:

"(a) Overview of the special problems of small island developing States:

"(i) Current trends in the socio-economic development of small island developing States;

"(ii) Nature and magnitude of specific vulnerabilities of small island developing States, including specific indicators of vulnerability;

"(iii) Prospects for, constraints on and further options for sustainable development;

"(b) Priority areas for the sustainable development of small island developing States:

"(i) Management of environmental problems of small island developing States;

"(ii) Management of the resources of small island developing States;

"(iii) Capacity-building in small island developing States;

"(c) Implementation, monitoring and review of the recommendations emerging from agenda item 3 (a) and (b) above:

"(i) National implementation, including recommendations for national capacity-building;

"(ii) Regional implementation, including review of relevant regional institutional arrangements and, where appropriate, recommendations for improvement;

"(iii) International implementation.

"4. Provisional agenda for the Conference.

"5. Adoption of the report of the Preparatory Committee.

"ANNOTATIONS

"3 (b) (i) Priority areas for the management of environmental problems of small island developing States include the following:

1. Climate change and sealevel rise, including coral bleaching and tropical storms;

2. Natural and environmental disaster preparedness, including early warning systems, disaster relief mechanisms and storm-resistant construction;

3. Management of waste.

"3 (b) (ii) Priority areas for the management of the resources of small island developing States include the following:

1. Coastal and marine resources;

2. Freshwater resources;

3. Land resources, including sustainable agriculture and forestry;

4. Energy resources;

5. Tourism resources;

6. Biodiversity resources.

"3 (b) (iii) Priority areas related to capacity-building in small island developing States include the following:

1. National institutions and administrative capacity;

2. Regional institutions and technical cooperation;

3. Regional transport and communication systems;

4. Science and technology;

5. Human resource development, including education, training, health and population.

"3 (c) (iii) International implementation, monitoring and review of the recommendations emerging from agenda item 3 (a) and (b) above include the following:

1. Review of the responsiveness of international institutional arrangements to the sustainable development needs of small island developing States and, where appropriate, recommendations for improvement;

2. Recommendations for monitoring and follow-up within the United Nations system."

39. At the 3rd meeting, on 16 April, the Chairman further revised the draft provisional agenda contained in document A/CONF.167/PC/L.1/Rev.1.

40. A statement was made by the representative of the United States of America.

41. At the same meeting, the Committee decided to approve the provisional agenda for its first session (A/CONF.167/PC/L.1/Rev.1), as orally revised (see chap. VI, decision 5).

42. In the light of that decision, the proposal contained in document A/CONF.167/PC/L.2 was withdrawn.

IV. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

43. At the 3rd meeting, on 16 April, the Chairman made concluding remarks.

44. Concluding statements were made by the representatives of Colombia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77), the United States of America, Denmark (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community) and Canada. The observer for the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme also made a statement.

V. MATTERS CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

45. The Preparatory Committee draws the attention of the General Assembly to the following decision, which is before the Assembly for its consideration and appropriate action:

DECISION 1

Participation of associate members of regional commissions in the Conference and its preparatory process[*]

At its 3rd meeting, on 16 April 1993, the Preparatory Committee for the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States decided:

(a) To recommend to the General Assembly that it invite associate members of regional commissions which are responsible for their own foreign affairs to participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference and its preparatory process;

(b) To recommend that the General Assembly invite associate members of regional commissions which are not responsible for their own foreign affairs to participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the Conference and its preparatory process. Such participation would not entitle those observers to enter into any legally binding agreements or commitments between Governments which are specified or otherwise implied in General Assembly resolution 47/189.

VI. MATTERS BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

46. The Preparatory Committee brings the following decisions to the attention of the General Assembly:

DECISION 2

Guidelines for the work of the Preparatory Committee

At its 3rd meeting, on 16 April 1993, the Preparatory Committee for the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States decided:

(a) To approach its work taking into account the following guidelines:

(i) Matters related to specific problems for small island developing States should be addressed at the micro level in relation to each priority area, as outlined in item 3 (b) of the provisional agenda for the Preparatory Committee, rather than at the macro level, as under item 3 (a);

(ii) Consideration of the role of small island developing States:

a. Actions and policies required for environment and development planning, including economic and environmental policy, resource management, legislative framework and endogenous institutions;

b. Elements for inclusion in medium- and long-term sustainable development plans and response strategies;

c. Measures for enhancing endogenous capacity-building;

(iii) Consideration of the role of regional organizations:

a. Development of regional approaches to sustainable development/ environmental problems;

b. Technical cooperation for endogenous capacity-building;

(iv) Consideration of the role of the international community:

a. Access to financial resources and mechanisms in accordance with the provisions of chapter 33 of Agenda 21;

b. Measures for enhancing the endogenous capacity of small island developing States, in particular the development of human resources and the promotion of access to environmentally sound and energy-efficient technology for sustainable development within such States;

(b) To request the Secretary-General, in preparing the documentation for the substantive session of the Committee, to take into account the above guidelines, as well as, inter alia, the following information:

(i) National reports submitted during the preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

(ii) Any supplementary national reports that may be provided by Governments;

(iii) Relevant reports arising out of regional technical meetings (including input from regional economic, financial and environmental organizations, for example, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Asian Development Bank and the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme;

(iv) Relevant information provided by organizations of the United Nations system, for example, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Meteorological Organization;

(v) Reports submitted by other intergovernmental organizations, for example, the Commonwealth Secretariat and the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme;

(vi) Reports submitted by international financial institutions;

(vii) Relevant contributions from non-governmental organizations.

DECISION 3

Provisional rules of procedure for the Conference

At its 3rd meeting, on 16 April 1993, the Preparatory Committee for the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States decided to recommend to the Conference the adoption of the provisional rules of procedure set out in the annex to the present decision.

Annex

PROVISIONAL RULES OF PROCEDURE

I. REPRESENTATION AND CREDENTIALS

Composition of delegations

Rule 1

The delegation of each State participating in the Conference shall consist of a head of delegation and such other representatives, alternate representatives and advisers as may be required.

Alternates and advisers

Rule 2

The head of delegation may designate an alternate representative or an adviser to act as a representative.

Submission of credentials

Rule 3

The credentials of representatives and the names of alternate representatives and advisers shall be submitted to the Secretary-General of the Conference, if possible not less than one week before the date fixed for the opening of the Conference. The credentials shall be issued either by the Head of the State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Credentials Committee

Rule 4

A Credentials Committee of nine members shall be appointed at the beginning of the Conference. Its composition shall be based on that of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations at its forty-eighth session. It shall examine the credentials of representatives and report to the Conference without delay.

Provisional participation in the Conference

Rule 5

Pending a decision of the Conference upon their credentials, representatives shall be entitled to participate provisionally in the Conference.

II. OFFICERS

Elections

Rule 6

The Conference shall elect from among the representatives of participating States the following officers: a President, __ Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur-General, as well as a Chairman for the Main Committee established in accordance with rule 46. These officials shall be elected on the basis of ensuring the representative character of the General Committee. The Conference may also elect such other officers as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.

General powers of the President

Rule 7

1. In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him elsewhere by these rules, the President shall preside at the plenary meetings of the Conference, declare the opening and closing of each meeting, put questions to the vote and announce decisions. The President shall rule on points of order and, subject to these rules, shall have complete control of the proceedings and over the maintenance of order thereat. The President may propose to the Conference the closure of the list of speakers, a limitation on the time to be allowed to speakers and on the number of times each representative may speak on a question, the adjournment or closure of the debate and the suspension or the adjournment of a meeting.

2. The President, in the exercise of his function, remains under the authority of the Conference.

Acting President

Rule 8

1. If the President is absent from a meeting or any part thereof, he shall designate one of the Vice-Presidents to take his place.

2. A Vice-President acting as President shall have the same powers and duties as the President.

Replacement of the President

Rule 9

If the President is unable to perform his functions, a new President shall be elected.

Voting rights of the President

Rule 10

The President, or a Vice-President acting as President, shall not vote in the Conference, but may appoint another member of his delegation to vote in his place.

III. GENERAL COMMITTEE

Composition

Rule 11

The President, the Vice-Presidents, the Rapporteur-General and the Chairman of the Main Committee shall constitute the General Committee. The President, or in his absence one of the Vice-Presidents designated by him, shall serve as Chairman of the General Committee. The Chairman of the Credentials Committee and other committees established by the Conference in accordance with rule 48 may participate, without the right to vote, in the General Committee.

Substitute members

Rule 12

If the President or a Vice-President of the Conference is to be absent during a meeting of the General Committee, he may designate a member of his delegation to sit and vote in the Committee. In case of absence, the Chairman of the Main Committee shall designate the Vice-Chairman of that Committee as his substitute. When serving on the General Committee, a Vice-Chairman of the Main Committee shall not have the right to vote if he is of the same delegation as another member of the General Committee.

Functions

Rule 13

The General Committee shall assist the President in the general conduct of the business of the Conference and, subject to the decisions of the Conference, shall ensure the coordination of its work.

IV. SECRETARIAT OF THE CONFERENCE

Duties of the Secretary-General

Rule 14

1. The Secretary-General shall act in that capacity in all meetings of the Conference and its subsidiary organs.

2. The Secretary-General may designate a member of the secretariat to act in his place at those meetings.

3. The Secretary-General shall direct the staff required by the Conference.

Duties of the secretariat

Rule 15

The secretariat of the Conference shall, in accordance with these rules:

(a) Interpret speeches made at meetings;

(b) Receive, translate, reproduce and circulate the documents of the Conference;

(c) Publish and circulate the official documents of the Conference;

(d) Prepare and circulate records of public meetings;

(e) Make and arrange for the keeping of sound recordings;

(f) Arrange for the custody and preservation of the documents of the Conference in the archives of the United Nations;

(g) Generally perform all other work that the Conference may require.

Statements by the secretariat

Rule 16

The Secretary-General, or any member of the secretariat designated by the Secretary-General for that purpose, may, at any time, make either oral or written statements concerning any question under consideration.

V. OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE

Temporary President

Rule 17

The Secretary-General shall open the first meeting of the Conference and preside until the Conference has elected its President.

Decisions concerning organization

Rule 18

The Conference shall at its first meeting:

(a) Adopt its rules of procedure;

(b) Elect its officers and constitute its subsidiary organs;

(c) Adopt its agenda, the draft of which shall, until such adoption, be the provisional agenda of the Conference;

(d) Decide on the organization of its work.

VI. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Quorum

Rule 19

The President may declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed when at least one third of the representatives of the States participating in the Conference are present. The presence of representatives of a majority of the States so participating shall be required for any decision to be taken.

Speeches

Rule 20

1. No one may address the Conference without having previously obtained the permission of the President. Subject to rules 21, 22 and 25 to 27, the President shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak. The secretariat shall be in charge of drawing up a list of speakers.

2. Debate shall be confined to the question before the Conference and the President may call a speaker to order if his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

3. The Conference may limit the time allowed to each speaker and the number of times each participant may speak on any question. Permission to speak on a motion to set such limits shall be accorded only to two representatives in favour of and to two opposing such limits, after which the motion shall be immediately put to the vote. In any event, with the consent of the Conference, the President shall limit each intervention on procedural matters to five minutes. When the debate is limited and a speaker exceeds the allotted time, the President shall call him to order without delay.

Points of order

Rule 21

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may at any time raise a point of order, which shall be immediately decided by the President in accordance with these rules. A representative may appeal against the ruling of the President. The appeal shall be immediately put to the vote, and the President's ruling shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the representatives present and voting. A representative may not, in raising a point of order, speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

Precedence

Rule 22

The Chairman or Rapporteur of the Main Committee, or the representative of a subcommittee or working group, may be accorded precedence for the purpose of explaining the conclusions arrived at by the body concerned.

Closing of the list of speakers

Rule 23

During the course of a debate, the President may announce the list of speakers and, with the consent of the Conference, declare the list closed.

Right of reply

Rule 24

1. Notwithstanding rule 23, the President shall accord the right of reply to a representative of any State participating in the Conference who requests it. Any other representative may be granted the opportunity to make a reply.

2. The statements made under this rule shall normally be made at the end of the last meeting of the day, or at the conclusion of the consideration of the relevant item if that is sooner.

3. The representatives of a State may make no more than two statements under this rule at a given meeting on any item. The first shall be limited to five minutes and the second to three minutes; representatives shall in any event attempt to be as brief as possible.

Adjournment of debate

Rule 25

A representative may at any time move the adjournment of the debate on the question under discussion. In addition to the proposer of the motion, permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded only to two representatives in favour of and to two opposing the adjournment, after which the motion shall, subject to rule 28, be immediately put to the vote.

Closure of debate

Rule 26

A representative may at any time move the closure of the debate on the question under discussion, whether or not any other representative has signified his wish to speak. Permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded only to two representatives opposing the closure, after which the motion shall, subject to rule 28, be immediately put to the vote.

Suspension or adjournment of the meeting

Rule 27

Subject to rule 38, a representative may at any time move the suspension or the adjournment of the meeting. No discussion on such motions shall be permitted and they shall, subject to rule 28, be immediately put to the vote.

Order of motions

Rule 28

The motions indicated below shall have precedence in the following order over all proposals or other motions before the meeting:

(a) To suspend the meeting;

(b) To adjourn the meeting;

(c) To adjourn the debate on the question under discussion;

(d) To close the debate on the question under discussion.

Submission of proposals and substantive amendments

Rule 29

Proposals and substantive amendments shall normally be submitted in writing to the Secretary-General, who shall circulate copies to all delegations. Unless the Conference decides otherwise, substantive proposals shall be discussed or put to a decision no earlier than 24 hours after copies have been circulated in all languages of the Conference to all delegations. The President may, however, permit the discussion and consideration of amendments, even though those amendments have not been circulated or have only been circulated the same day.

Withdrawal of proposals and motions

Rule 30

A proposal or a motion may be withdrawn by its sponsor at any time before a decision on it has been taken, provided that it has not been amended. A proposal or a motion thus withdrawn may be reintroduced by any representative.

Decisions on competence

Rule 31

Subject to rule 21, any motion calling for a decision on the competence of the Conference to adopt a proposal submitted to it shall be put to the vote before a decision is taken on the proposal in question.

Reconsideration of proposals

Rule 32

When a proposal has been adopted or rejected, it may not be reconsidered unless the Conference, by a two-thirds majority of the representatives present and voting, so decides. Permission to speak on a motion to reconsider shall be accorded only to two speakers opposing reconsideration, after which the motion shall be immediately put to the vote.

VII. DECISION-MAKING

General agreement

Rule 33

The Conference shall make its best endeavours to ensure that the work of the Conference is accomplished by general agreement.

Voting rights

Rule 34

Each State participating in the Conference shall have one vote.

Majority required

Rule 35

1. Subject to rule 33, decisions of the Conference and its subsidiary organs shall be taken in accordance with the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and its committees, respectively.

2. Except as otherwise provided in these rules, decisions of the Conference on all matters of procedure shall be taken by a majority of the representatives present and voting.

3. If the question arises whether a matter is one of procedure or of substance, the President of the Conference shall rule on the question. An appeal against this ruling shall be put to the vote immediately, and the President's ruling shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the representatives present and voting.

4. If a vote is equally divided, the proposal or motion shall be regarded as rejected.

Meaning of the phrase "representatives present and voting"

Rule 36

For the purpose of these rules, the phrase "representatives present and voting" means representatives casting an affirmative or negative vote. Representatives who abstain from voting shall be regarded as not voting.

Method of voting

Rule 37

1. Except as provided in rule 44, the Conference shall normally vote by show of hands, except that a representative may request a roll-call, which shall then be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the States participating in the Conference, beginning with the delegation whose name is drawn by lot by the President. The name of each State shall be called in all roll-calls, and its representative shall reply "yes", "no" or "abstention".

2. When the Conference votes by mechanical means, a non-recorded vote shall replace a vote by show of hands and a recorded vote shall replace a roll-call. A representative may request a recorded vote, which shall, unless a representative requests otherwise, be taken without calling out the names of the States participating in the Conference.

3. The vote of each State participating in a roll-call or a recorded vote shall be inserted in any record of or report on the meeting.

Conduct during voting

Rule 38

After the President has announced the commencement of voting, no representative shall interrupt the voting, except on a point of order in connection with the process of voting.

Explanation of vote

Rule 39

Representatives may make brief statements consisting solely of explanations of vote, before the voting has commenced or after the voting has been completed. The President may limit the time to be allowed for such explanations. The representative of a State sponsoring a proposal or motion shall not speak in explanation of vote thereon, except if it has been amended.

Division of proposals

Rule 40

A representative may move that parts of a proposal be decided on separately. If a representative objects, the motion for division shall be voted upon. Permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded only to two representatives in favour of and to two opposing the division. If the motion is carried, those parts of the proposal that are subsequently approved shall be put to the Conference for decision as a whole. If all operative parts of the proposal have been rejected, the proposal shall be considered to have been rejected as a whole.

Amendments

Rule 41

A proposal is considered an amendment to another proposal if it merely adds to, deletes from or revises part of that proposal. Unless specified otherwise, the word "proposal" in these rules shall be considered as including amendments.

Order of voting on amendments

Rule 42

When an amendment is moved to a proposal, the amendment shall be voted on first. When two or more amendments are moved to a proposal, the Conference shall vote first on the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal and then on the amendment next furthest removed therefrom and so on until all the amendments have been put to the vote. Where, however, the adoption of one amendment necessarily implies the rejection of another amendment, the latter shall not be put to the vote. If one or more amendments are adopted, the amended proposal shall then be voted upon.

Order of voting on proposals

Rule 43

1. If two or more proposals, other than amendments, relate to the same question, they shall, unless the Conference decides otherwise, be voted on in the order in which they were submitted. The Conference may, after each vote on a proposal, decide whether to vote on the next proposal.

2. Revised proposals shall be voted on in the order in which the original proposals were submitted, unless the revision substantially departs from the original proposal. In that case, the original proposal shall be considered as withdrawn and the revised proposal shall be treated as a new proposal.

3. A motion requiring that no decision be taken on a proposal shall be put to the vote before a decision is taken on the proposal in question.

Elections

Rule 44

All elections shall be held by secret ballot unless, in the absence of any objection, the Conference decides to proceed without taking a ballot when there is an agreed candidate or State.

Rule 45

1. When one or more elective places are to be filled at one time under the same conditions, those candidates, in a number not exceeding the number of such places, obtaining in the first ballot a majority of the votes cast and the largest number of votes shall be elected.

2. If the number of candidates obtaining such majority is less than the number of places to be filled, additional ballots shall be held to fill the remaining places.

VIII. SUBSIDIARY BODIES

Main Committee

Rule 46

The Conference may establish a Main Committee as required which may set up subcommittees or working groups.

Representation on the Main Committee

Rule 47

Each State participating in the Conference may be represented by one representative on the Main Committee established by the Conference. It may assign to the Committee such alternate representatives and advisers as may be required.

Other committees and working groups

Rule 48

1. In addition to the Main Committee referred to above, the Conference may establish such committees and working groups as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.

2. Subject to the decision of the plenary of the Conference, the Main Committee may set up subcommittees and working groups.

Rule 49

1. The members of the committees and working groups of the Conference, referred to in rule 48, paragraph 1, shall be appointed by the President, subject to the approval of the Conference, unless the Conference decides otherwise.

2. Members of the subcommittees and working groups of committees shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Committee in question, subject to the approval of that Committee, unless the Committee decides otherwise.

Officers

Rule 50

Except as otherwise provided in rule 6, each committee, subcommittee and working group shall elect its own officers.

Quorum

Rule 51

1. The Chairman of the Main Committee may declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed when representatives of at least one quarter of the States participating in the Conference are present. The presence of representatives of a majority of the States so participating shall be required for any decision to be taken.

2. A majority of the representatives of the General or Credentials Committee or of any committee, subcommittee or working group shall constitute a quorum.

Officers, conduct of business and voting

Rule 52

Rules 6 to 10 and 20 to 45 above shall be applicable, *mutatis mutandis*, to the proceedings of committees, subcommittees and working groups, except that:

(a) The Chairmen of the General and Credentials Committees and the chairmen of the committees, subcommittees and working groups may exercise the right to vote;

(b) Decisions of committees, subcommittees and working groups shall be taken by a majority of the representatives present and voting, except that the reconsideration of a proposal or an amendment shall require the majority established by rule 32.

IX. LANGUAGES AND RECORDS

Languages of the Conference

Rule 53

Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish shall be the languages of the Conference.

Interpretation

Rule 54

1. Speeches made in a language of the Conference shall be interpreted into the other such languages.

2. A representative may speak in a language other than a language of the Conference if the delegation concerned provides for interpretation into one such language.

Languages of official documents

Rule 55

Official documents of the Conference shall be made available in the languages of the Conference.

Sound recordings of meetings

Rule 56

Sound recordings of meetings of the Conference and of the Main Committee shall be made and kept in accordance with the practice of the United Nations. Unless otherwise decided by the Conference or the Main Committee concerned, no such recordings shall be made of the meetings of any working group thereof.

X. PUBLIC AND PRIVATE MEETINGS

General principles

Rule 57

The plenary meetings of the Conference and the meetings of any committee shall be held in public unless the body concerned decides otherwise. All decisions taken by the plenary of the Conference at a private meeting shall be announced at an early public meeting of the plenary.

Rule 58

As a general rule, meetings of the General Committee, subcommittees or working groups shall be held in private.

Communiqués on private meetings

Rule 59

At the close of a private meeting, the presiding officer of the organ concerned may issue a communiqué through the Secretary-General of the Conference.

XI. OTHER PARTICIPANTS AND OBSERVERS

Representatives of organizations that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate in the capacity of observers in the sessions and work of all international conferences convened under its auspices

Rule 60

Representatives designated by organizations that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate in the sessions and work of all international conferences convened under its auspices have the right to participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference, the Main Committee and, as appropriate, any other committee or working group.

Representatives of national liberation movements

Rule 61

Representatives designated by national liberation movements invited to the Conference may participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference, the Main Committee and, as appropriate, any other committee or working group on any matter of particular concern to those movements.

Representatives of the specialized agencies*

Rule 62

Representatives designated by the specialized agencies may participate, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference, the Main Committee and, as appropriate, any other committee or working group on questions within the scope of their activities.

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* For the purpose of these rules, the term "specialized agencies" includes the International Atomic Energy Agency and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Representatives of other intergovernmental organizations

Rule 63

Representatives designated by other intergovernmental organizations invited to the Conference may participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference, the Main Committee and, as appropriate, any other committee or working group on questions within the scope of their activities.

Representatives of regional and subregional organizations

Rule 64

Representatives designated by regional and subregional organizations invited to the Conference may participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference, the Main Committee and, as appropriate, any other committee or working group on questions within the scope of their activities.

Participation of associate members of regional commissions

Rule 65

Associate members of regional commissions invited to the Conference may participate as observers, outside the negotiating process and without the right to vote, in the Conference, the Main Committee and, as appropriate, any other committee or working group on questions within the scope of their activities.

Representatives of interested United Nations organs

Rule 66

Representatives designated by interested organs of the United Nations may participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference, the Main Committee and, as appropriate, any other committee or working group on questions within the scope of their activities.

Representatives of non-governmental organizations

Rule 67

1. Non-governmental organizations invited to the Conference may designate representatives to sit as observers at public meetings of the Conference and the Main Committee.

2. Upon the invitation of the presiding officer of the conference body concerned and subject to the approval of that body, such observers may make oral statements on questions in which they have special competence.

Written statements

Rule 68

Written statements submitted by the designated representatives referred to in rules 60 to 66 shall be distributed by the secretariat to all delegations in the quantities and in the language in which the statements are made available to it at the site of the Conference, provided that a statement submitted on behalf of a non-governmental organization is related to the work of the Conference and is on a subject in which the organization has a special competence.

XII. SUSPENSION AND AMENDMENT OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

Method of suspension

Rule 69

Any of these rules may be suspended by the Conference provided that 24 hours' notice of the proposal for the suspension has been given, which may be waived if no representative objects. Any such suspension shall be limited to a specific and stated purpose and to a period required to achieve that purpose.

Method of amendment

Rule 70

These rules of procedure may be amended by a decision of the Conference taken by a two-thirds majority of the representatives present and voting, after the General Committee has reported on the proposed amendment.

DECISION 4

Participation of non-governmental organizations in the Conference and its preparatory process

At its 3rd meeting, on 16 April 1993, the Preparatory Committee for the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States decided to invite non-governmental organizations, including major groups, to contribute actively to the Conference and its preparatory process in accordance with the procedures followed for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

DECISION 5

Provisional agenda for the first session of the Preparatory Committee

At its 3rd meeting, on 16 April 1993, the Preparatory Committee for the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States approved the following provisional agenda for its first session:

Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

2. Preparations for the first Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States on the basis of General Assembly resolution 47/189 and taking into account other relevant General Assembly resolutions:

    (a) Activities of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and other bodies of relevance to the preparatory process related to the sustainable development needs of small island developing States in the light of relevant recommendations of Agenda 21;

    (b) Preparations by the host Government;

    (c) Reports from regional technical meetings;

    (d) Participation of non-governmental organizations in the preparatory process;

    (e) Operations of the voluntary fund.

3. Consideration of plans and programmes to support the sustainable development of small island developing States and the utilization of their marine and coastal resources, which includes meeting essential human needs, maintaining biodiversity, and improving the quality of life for island people, as well as measures that will enable small island developing States to cope effectively, creatively and in a sustainable manner with environmental changes and to mitigate the impacts on and reduce the threats posed to marine and coastal resources. The discussion of this item should cover the following:

    (a) Overview of the special problems of small island developing States:

    (i) Current trends in the socio-economic development of small island developing States;

    (ii) Nature and magnitude of specific vulnerabilities of small island developing States, including specific indicators of vulnerability;

    (iii) Prospects for, constraints on and further options for sustainable development;

    (b) Priority areas for the sustainable development of small island developing States:

    (i) Management of environmental problems of small island developing States;

    (ii) Management of the resources of small island developing States;

    (iii) Capacity-building in small island developing States;

    (c) Implementation, monitoring and review of the recommendations emerging from agenda item 3 (a) and (b) above:

(i) National implementation, including recommendations for national capacity-building;

(ii) Regional implementation, including review of relevant regional institutional arrangements and, where appropriate, recommendations for improvement;

(iii) International implementation.

4. Provisional agenda for the Conference.

5. Adoption of the report of the Preparatory Committee.

Annotations

3 (b) (i) Suggested priority areas for the management of environmental problems of small island developing States include:

1. Climate change and sealevel rise, including coral bleaching and tropical storms;
2. Natural and environmental disaster preparedness, including early warning systems, disaster relief mechanisms and storm-resistant construction;
3. Management of waste.

3 (b) (ii) Suggested priority areas for the management of the resources of small island developing States include:

1. Coastal and marine resources;
2. Freshwater resources;
3. Land resources, including sustainable agriculture and forestry;
4. Energy resources;
5. Tourism resources;
6. Biodiversity resources.

3 (b) (iii) Suggested priority areas related to capacity-building in small island developing States include:

1. National institutions and administrative capacity;
2. Regional institutions and technical cooperation;
3. Regional transport and communication systems;
4. Science and technology;
5. Human resource development, including education, training, health and population.

3 (c) (iii) International implementation, monitoring and review of the recommendations emerging from agenda item 3 (a) and (b) above include:

1. Review of the responsiveness of international institutional arrangements to the sustainable development needs of small island developing States and, where appropriate, recommendations for improvement;
2. Recommendations for monitoring and follow-up within the United Nations system.

ANNEX

Documents before the Preparatory Committee at its organizational session

Document number	Agenda item	Title or description
A/CONF.167/PC/1	2	Annotated provisional agenda
A/CONF.167/PC/2	3	Preparations for the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States: report of the Secretary-General
A/CONF.167/PC/3	3	Draft provisional rules of procedure for the Conference: report of the Secretary-General
A/CONF.167/PC/L.1	4	Draft provisional agenda for the first session of the Preparatory Committee: note by the Secretariat
A/CONF.167/PC/L.1/Rev.1	4	Revised draft provisional agenda for the first session of the Preparatory Committee: note by the Secretariat
A/CONF.167/PC/L.2	4	Group of 77 and China: draft provisional agenda for the first session of the Preparatory Committee
A/CONF.167/PC/L.3	3	Bureau of the Preparatory Committee: draft decision

Part Two

REPORT OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES ON ITS FIRST SESSION

Held at United Nations Headquarters
from 30 August to 10 September 1993

I. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Preparatory Committee held its first session at United Nations Headquarters from 30 August to 10 September 1993. The Committee held 12 meetings (4th to 15th meetings) and several informal meetings.

2. The session was opened by the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee.

3. At the 4th meeting, on 30 August, the Under-Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development made an introductory statement.

B. Attendance

4. The following States were represented: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Cape Verde, China, Colombia, Comoros, Cook Islands, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Holy See, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kiribati, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Morocco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

5. The following associate members of the regional commissions were represented by observers: Niue and United States Virgin Islands.

6. The following United Nations bodies and programmes were represented: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Population Fund, United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and United Nations International Drug Control Programme.

7. The Economic Commission for Africa, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific were represented.

8. The following specialized agencies were represented: International Labour Organization (ILO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Health Organization (WHO), World Bank, International Monetary Fund, International Telecommunication Union (ITU), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), World Meteorological Organization and International Atomic Energy Agency.

9. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented: Caribbean Community, Commission of the European Communities, Commonwealth Secretariat,

South Pacific Regional Environment Programme, Agency for Cultural and Technical Cooperation and South Pacific Forum Secretariat.

10. The following non-governmental organizations accredited to participate in the deliberations of the Preparatory Committee were represented: American Anthropological Association, American Society of International Law, Association of the Bar of the City of New York, Association pour la sauvegarde du Patrimoine martiniquais, Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University, Caribbean Conservation Association, Caribbean Policy Development Center, Commonwealth Medical Association, Council for Development, Environmental Studies and Conservation, Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era, Earth Council, ECO-Sao Tome e Principe, Environmental Defense Fund, Forum of African Voluntary Development Organizations, Foundation for the Peoples of the South Pacific, Foundation for International Environment Law and Development, Friends of the Earth (Curaçao), Friends of the Earth (Papua New Guinea), Fundashon Defensa Ambiental, Greenpeace International, International Association for Impact Assessment, International Chamber of Commerce, International Coastal and Ocean Organization, International Council for Adult Education, International Fund for National Directorate of Employment, International Islamic Federation of Student Organizations, International Ocean Institute, International Society for Mangrove Ecosystems, International Studies Association, International Synergy Institute, Island Resources Foundation, O Le Siosiomaga Society, Inc., Pacific Concerns Resource Centre, Pan African Movement, Society for International Development, Solar Box Cookers International, Solomon Islands Development Trust, Soroptimist International, South Pacific Action Committee for Human Ecology and Environment, United Nations Association of the United States of America, University of the West Indies: Centre for Sustainable Development, Women's Environment and Development Organization, Women and Fisheries Network, World Association of Former United Nations Interns and Fellows, World Association of Industrial and Technological Research Organizations, World Leisure and Recreation Association, World Movement of Mothers and World Wildlife Fund (USA).

C. Election of officers

11. The officers for the first session were as follows:

Chairman: Penelope Wensley (Australia)

Vice-Chairmen: John Ashe (Antigua and Barbuda)
Marian Dinu (Romania)
José Luis Jesus (Cape Verde)

Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur: Takao Shibata (Japan)

12. At its 9th meeting, on 1 September, the Committee elected, by acclamation, Mr. Ion Barac (Romania), as Vice-Chairman to replace Mr. Marian Dinu (Romania) who had resigned.

D. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

13. At its 4th meeting, on 30 August, the Committee adopted the provisional agenda contained in document A/CONF.167/PC/5. The agenda was as follows:

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

2. Preparations for the first Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States on the basis of General Assembly resolution 47/189 and taking into account other relevant General Assembly resolutions:

   (a) Activities of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and other bodies of relevance to the preparatory process related to the sustainable development needs of small island developing States in the light of relevant recommendations of Agenda 21;

   (b) Preparations by the host Government;

   (c) Reports from regional technical meetings;

   (d) Participation of non-governmental organizations in the preparatory process;

   (e) Operations of the voluntary fund.

3. Consideration of plans and programmes to support the sustainable development of small island developing States and the utilization of their marine and coastal resources, which includes meeting essential human needs, maintaining biodiversity and improving the quality of life for island people, as well as measures that will enable small island developing States to cope effectively, creatively and in a sustainable manner with environmental changes and to mitigate the impacts on and reduce the threats posed to marine and coastal resources:

   (a) Overview of the special problems of small island developing States:

   (i) Current trends in the socio-economic development of small island developing States;

   (ii) Nature and magnitude of specific vulnerabilities of small island developing States, including specific indicators of vulnerability;

   (iii) Prospects for, constraints on and further options for sustainable development;

   (b) Priority areas for the sustainable development of small island developing States:

   (i) Management of environmental problems of small island developing States;

   (ii) Management of the resources of small island developing States;

   (iii) Capacity-building in small island developing States;

   (c) Implementation, monitoring and review of the recommendations emerging from agenda items 3 (a) and (b) above:

   (i) National implementation, including recommendations for national capacity-building;

  - (ii) Regional implementation, including review of relevant regional institutional arrangements and, where appropriate, recommendations for improvement;
  - (iii) International implementation.

4. Provisional agenda for the Conference.
5. Adoption of the report of the Preparatory Committee.

II. PREPARATIONS FOR THE FIRST GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES ON THE BASIS OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 47/189 AND TAKING INTO ACCOUNT OTHER RELEVANT GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS

A. Activities of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and other bodies of relevance to the preparatory process related to the sustainable development needs of small island developing States in the light of relevant recommendations of Agenda 21

14. The Preparatory Committee considered agenda item 2 (a) jointly with item 3 at its 4th to 10th, 13th and 15th meetings, from 30 August to 2 September and on 8 and 10 September. It had before it the reports of the Secretary-General on the overview of system-wide activities relevant to General Assembly resolution 47/189 (A/CONF.167/PC/6), on the activities of the Conference secretariat and other matters (A/CONF.167/PC/9) and on the sustainable development of small island developing States (A/CONF.167/PC/10 and Corr.1).

15. The Committee held a general discussion of the items at its 4th to 10th meetings, from 31 August to 2 September.

16. At the 4th meeting, on 30 August, the representative of the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the Secretariat made an introductory statement.

17. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Colombia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77), Vanuatu (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States), Belgium (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community) and Antigua and Barbuda.

18. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee made a statement in response to a question raised by the representative of Papua New Guinea.

19. At the 5th meeting, on 30 August, statements were made by the representatives of Australia, Barbados, the Marshall Islands, Italy, Canada, the United States of America, New Zealand, Fiji and Japan.

20. At the 6th meeting, on 31 August, statements were made by the representatives of Israel, Mauritius, China, the Federated States of Micronesia, Romania, Cook Islands, Trinidad and Tobago and Kiribati.

21. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of WHO and the International Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO.

22. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme made a statement.

23. At the 7th meeting, on 31 August, statements were made by the representatives of Argentina, Cuba, Jamaica and Brazil and the observer for Niue.

24. At the same meeting, the representative of the ILO made a statement. The representatives of UNCTAD and UNEP made statements.

25. At the same meeting, the observer for the Caribbean Conservation Association made a statement.

26. At the 8th meeting, on 1 September, statements were made by the representatives of Tonga, Maldives, Malta, the Solomon Islands, Benin and Cape Verde.

27. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of UNESCO, FAO and ITU. The representative of UNDP made a statement.

28. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Intergovernmental Committee on the Convention on Biological Diversity of UNEP made a statement.

29. At the 9th meeting, on 1 September, statements were made by the representatives of Iceland (on behalf of the Nordic countries), the Bahamas, Sierra Leone, Seychelles, Papua New Guinea, Venezuela, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Sao Tome and Principe and Grenada.

30. At the same meeting, the observer for the Commonwealth Secretariat made a statement.

31. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the observers for the International Ocean Institute, the O Le Siosiomaga Society, Inc., the Solomon Islands Development Trust, the Forum of African Voluntary Development Organizations (Guinea-Bissau) and the Association of the Bar of the City of New York.

32. At the 10th meeting, on 2 September, statements were made by the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Austria, Samoa, Mexico, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Ecuador.

33. At the same meeting, the representatives of UNIDO and the World Bank made statements.

34. At the same meeting, the representative of the regional commissions made a statement.

35. Also at the 10th meeting, statements were made by the observers for the World Association of Former United Nations Interns and Fellows and the Caribbean Conservation Association.

36. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of New Zealand, Australia, Belgium (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community), Kiribati, Canada, Vanuatu, France, the United States of America, Iceland and Cuba, in connection with the report of the Secretary-General on the overview of system-wide activities relevant to General Assembly resolution 47/189 (A/CONF.167/PC/6).

37. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of FAO and the International Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO.

B. Preparations by the host Government

38. The Committee considered agenda item 2 (b) at its 12th meeting, on 3 September. It heard a statement by the Minister for Environment, Housing and Lands of Barbados.

39. At the same meeting, the observers for the Caribbean Conservation Association and the Pacific Concerns Resource Centre made statements.

1. Dates for the Conference

40. At its 15th meeting, on 10 September, the Committee, on the proposal of the Chairman, adopted a decision recommending to the General Assembly that it approve the dates 25 April to 6 May 1994 for the Conference (see chap. VII, decision 6).

2. Pre-session consultations

41. At its 15th meeting, on 10 September, following a statement by the representative of the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development, the Committee, on the proposal of the Chairman, adopted a decision recommending to the General Assembly that pre-session consultations take place in Barbados on 24 April 1994 (see chap. VII, decision 7).

C. Reports from regional technical meetings

42. The Committee considered agenda item 2 (c) at its 11th meeting, on 2 September. Introductory statements were made by the Sustainable Development Officer of the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme and the Chief of the Industry, Technology, Environment and Tourism Section of the Caribbean Community.

43. The Committee had before it two notes by the Secretariat, transmitting the report of the Regional Technical Meeting for the Indian and Pacific Oceans, held at Port Vila from 31 May to 4 June 1993 (A/CONF.167/PC/7), and the report of the Regional Technical Meeting for the Atlantic, the Caribbean and the Mediterranean, held at Port-of-Spain, from 12 to 16 July 1993 (A/CONF.167/PC/8).

D. Participation of non-governmental organizations in the preparatory process

44. The Committee considered agenda item 2 (d) at its 6th meeting, on 31 August. It had before it a note by the Secretariat on participation of non-governmental organizations in the preparatory process (A/CONF.167/PC/L.4).

45. At the same meeting, the Committee approved the accreditation to the Conference and its preparatory process of the non-governmental organizations listed in the note by the Secretariat (see chap. VIII, decision 9).

E. Operations of the voluntary fund

46. The Committee considered agenda item 2 (e) at its 12th meeting, on 3 September. The representative of the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development made an introductory statement.

47. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Japan and Vanuatu (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States).

III. CONSIDERATION OF PLANS AND PROGRAMMES TO SUPPORT THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES AND THE UTILIZATION OF THEIR MARINE AND COASTAL RESOURCES, WHICH INCLUDES MEETING ESSENTIAL HUMAN NEEDS, MAINTAINING BIODIVERSITY AND IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ISLAND PEOPLE, AS WELL AS MEASURES THAT WILL ENABLE SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES TO COPE EFFECTIVELY, CREATIVELY AND IN A SUSTAINABLE MANNER WITH ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES AND TO MITIGATE THE IMPACTS ON AND REDUCE THE THREATS POSED TO MARINE AND COASTAL RESOURCES

A. Basic elements for an action programme on the sustainable development of small island developing States

48. The Preparatory Committee considered agenda item 3 jointly with agenda item 2 (a) (see chap. II).

49. At the 13th meeting, on 8 September, the representative of Colombia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a document entitled "Position of the Group of 77 and China on basic elements for an action programme for the sustainable development of small island developing States" (A/CONF.167/PC/L.5 and Add.1).

50. At the 15th meeting, on 10 September, the representative of Vanuatu, on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States, announced that he had formally submitted a revised text of the document (A/CONF.167/PC/L.5/Rev.1). The representatives of Brazil, Austria and Australia made statements.

51. At the same meeting, the Committee agreed to request the Rapporteur to prepare with the assistance of the Secretariat, a revised integrated and comprehensive working text, based on the revised text submitted by the Group of 77 and China, which would take into account the comments and proposals made by delegations (see chap. VIII, decision 10). The Committee also agreed that the revised document should be made available to all participants for the continuation of the preparatory work (see annex III).

B. Options for the continuation of the preparatory work

52. At the 15th meeting, on 10 September, the representative of Vanuatu, on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States, proposed that the Preparatory Committee recommend to the General Assembly the continuation of the preparatory process by either a second or a resumed session of the Committee. Following statements by the representatives of Belgium (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community), the United States of America, Australia, Canada, Iceland (on behalf of the Nordic countries), New Zealand, Brazil, Japan, Barbados, Samoa, Austria, China and Mauritius, and the representative of the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development, the Chairman orally proposed a draft decision whereby the Committee would request the General Assembly to explore options for the continuation of the preparatory work for the Conference.

53. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft decision (see chap. VII, decision 8).

C. Information needs on current donor activities in support of sustainable development in small island developing States

54. At the 15th meeting, on 10 September, the representative of Australia, also on behalf of Canada, Iceland, Japan, New Zealand and Sweden, introduced a draft decision entitled "Information needs on current donor activities in support of sustainable development in small island developing States", (A/CONF.167/PC/L.7) which read:

> "The Preparatory Committee for the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, having noted with appreciation the preliminary information supplied by United Nations agencies (A/CONF.167/PC/6) and taking into account the need for the Conference to have a clear account of current donor activities in support of sustainable development in small island developing States:
>
> "(a) Decides to request the Secretary-General, in consultation with the relevant United Nations agencies and organizations as well as bilateral, regional and multilateral donor agencies and non-governmental organizations, to prepare a report containing relevant information on donor activities in support of sustainable development in small island developing States, to be available for Member States by January 1994;
>
> "(b) Further requests that the Secretariat provide this information at subprogramme level, using the programmes outlined under each broad heading contained in the programme of action, aggregated to subregional level, based on the following headings:
>
> "(i) General information on subprogramme, including objectives;
>
> "(ii) Name of sponsoring agency;
>
> "(iii) Amount of funds and, where applicable, source;
>
> "(iv) Where applicable, name of co-sponsor and amount provided;
>
> "(v) Where applicable, name of implementing agency;
>
> "(c) Further requests that, in preparing the report, particular attention be given to avoiding double-counting between agencies and to ensuring that presentations give a realistic picture of the current activities of agencies."

55. In introducing the draft decision, the representative of Australia orally revised it, as follows:

(a) In subparagraph (a), the words "as well as bilateral, regional and multilateral donor agencies and non-governmental organizations" were deleted and, after the words "developing States", the words "and to invite bilateral, regional and multilateral donor agencies and non-governmental organizations to provide similar input to be included in the report" were inserted;

(b) Subparagraph (b) was replaced by the following text:

> "(b) Also requests that the Secretariat use the guidelines outlined below in presenting the report:

"(i) Information to be grouped under the headings contained in document A/CONF.167/PC/L.5;

"(ii) General information on subprogramme, including objectives;

"(iii) Name of sponsoring agency;

"(iv) Amount of funds and, where applicable, source;

"(v) Where applicable, name of co-sponsor and amount provided;

"(vi) Where applicable, name of implementing agency;

"(vii) Information to be aggregated at the subregional and subsector level;"

(c) In subparagraph (c), after the words "between agencies", the words "and between sectors" were inserted.

56. At the same meeting, the representative of the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development made a statement in connection with the draft decision. He advised the Committee that the Secretariat foresaw a number of technical difficulties in gathering and presenting the data needed for the report; consequently it might not be possible to abide strictly by the guidelines suggested for its preparation.

57. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft decision, as orally revised (see chap. VIII, decision 11).

58. Before the adoption of the draft decision, statements were made by the representatives of Belgium (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community) and France.

59. After the adoption of the draft decision, statements were made by the representatives of Vanuatu (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States) and the Netherlands.

D. Statement made by the representative of Vanuatu on behalf of the States members and observers of the Alliance of Small Island States

60. At its 15th meeting, on 10 September, the Committee decided (see chap. VIII, decision 12) to annex the statement made on 30 August by the representative of Vanuatu to its report (see annex II).

IV. PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE CONFERENCE

61. At its 15th meeting, on 10 September, the Preparatory Committee considered the question of the provisional agenda for the Conference. It had before it a note by the Secretariat (A/CONF.167/PC/11) containing the proposed provisional agenda for the Conference.

62. At the same meeting, the Committee approved the provisional agenda for the Conference as contained in document A/CONF.167/PC/11 and decided to recommend it for adoption by the Conference (see chap. VIII, decision 13).

V. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE

A. Report of the Preparatory Committee on its organizational session

63. At its 15th meeting, on 10 September, the Preparatory Committee considered the draft report on its organizational session (A/CONF.167/PC/4).

64. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft report.

B. Report of the Preparatory Committee on its first session

65. At the 15th meeting, on 10 September, the Rapporteur introduced and orally revised the draft report of the Committee on its first session (A/CONF.167/PC/L.6).

66. At the same meeting, the representative of Kiribati made a statement.

67. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted its draft report, as orally revised, and decided to entrust the Rapporteur with finalizing the report in the light of the comments made and the decisions taken at its final meeting, with a view to its submission to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session.

VI. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

68. At the 15th meeting, on 10 September, the Chairman made a concluding statement.

69. A concluding statement was also made by the representative of Vanuatu, on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States.

70. The observer for the South Pacific Action Committee for Human Ecology and Environment made a statement on behalf of a coalition of non-governmental organizations represented at the session of the Committee.

VII. MATTERS CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

71. The Preparatory Committee draws the attention of the General Assembly to the following decisions, which are before the Assembly for its consideration and appropriate action:

DECISION 6

Dates of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

At its 15th meeting, on 10 September 1993, the Preparatory Committee for the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States decided to recommend to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session the dates 25 April to 6 May 1994 for the Conference.

DECISION 7

Date for the pre-session consultations

At its 15th meeting, on 10 September 1993, the Preparatory Committee for the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States decided to recommend to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session that pre-session consultations for the Conference take place in Barbados on 24 April 1994.

DECISION 8

Options for the continuation of the preparatory work of the Committee

At its 15th meeting, on 10 September 1993, the Preparatory Committee for the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States decided to request the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session to explore options for the continuation of the preparatory work of the Committee.

VIII. MATTERS BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

72. The Preparatory Committee brings the following decisions to the attention of the General Assembly:

DECISION 9

Accreditation of non-governmental organizations to the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and its preparatory process

At its 6th meeting, on 31 August 1993, the Preparatory Committee for the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States approved the accreditation to the Conference and its preparatory process of the following non-governmental organizations:

Alaska Marine Conservation Council
American Bar Association
Asociación Civil "Los Algarrobos"
Asociación de Universidades e Institutos de Investigación del Caribe (Association of Caribbean Universities and Research Institutes) (UNICA)
Associação Amigos de Petropolis
Association des Volontaires pour le développement
Association for the Promotion of Women in Development and Sport (Promo Femmes-développement Sport)
Association pour la sauvegarde du Patrimoine martiniquais (ASSAUPAMAR)
Barbados Environmental Association
Barbados Museum and Historical Society
Barbados National Trust
Breastfeeding Information Group
Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI)
Caribbean People's Development Agency (CARIPEDA)
Centre for Resources Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES)
Centre for Sustainable Development (University of the West Indies)
Centro de Educación Popular
Citi-Habitat/Centro de Investigação e Tecnologia Intermediaria para o Habitat
Community Capital Management Association
Community Services Guild
Council of Voluntary Social Services (CVSS)
Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN)
Eastern Caribbean Safe Diving Association (ECSDA)
ECO - Sao Tome e Principe
ECO - The Ecological Society
Environmental Foundation Ltd.
European Centre for Studies, Information and Education on Pacific Issues (ECSIEP)/Europe Pacific Solidarity Network
Friends of the Earth (Curaçao) (Amigu di Terra)
Friends of the Earth (Papua New Guinea)
Fundación de Parques Nacionales
Fundashon Defensa Ambiental
Global Coral Reef Alliance
Institution of Public Health Engineers, India
INSULA - International Scientific Council for Island Development
International Centre for Study and Development

International Fund for National Directorate of Employment/Better Life (Informal Cooperatives Sector Education Scheme)
International Institute of Sustainable Development and Management
Island Resources Foundation
Jamaica Conservation and Development Trust
Liga dos Amigos do Paul (AMIPAUL)
Mauritius Family Planning Association
Mazingira Institute
Melanesian Institute, University of Papua New Guinea
Montserrat National Trust
National Environmental Society Trust (NEST)
National Research and Development Foundation
Nature Society (Singapore)
Nitrogen Fixing Tree Association
O Le Siosiomaga Society, Inc.
Organização das Mulheres de Cabo Verde
Organization for Agricultural Development
Organization for Rural Development (ORD)
PEMASKY - Programa de Ecologia y Manejo de Areas Silvestres de Kuna Yala
Proutist Universal
Reef Relief
Ruk Rakaganno (The Tree Society of Sri Lanka)
Samoan Association of Non-Governmental Organizations (SANGO)
Shri Bajranj Lok Manas Kalyan Samiti
Society Affiliated to Research and Improvement of Tribal Areas (Sarita Society)
Solomon Islands Development Trust
South Pacific Action Committee for Human Ecology and Environment (SPACHEE)
UNESCO Club (Malta)
Union régionale des associations du patrimoine et de l'environnement de la Guadeloupe (URAPEG)
Universidad de Puerto Rico - Oficina de Protección Ambiental y Seguridad Ocupacional (OPASO)
University of the South Pacific
Volontaires guinéens pour l'environnement
Women and Fisheries Network
Worldwide Network (Women in Development and Environment)

DECISION 10

Position of the Group of 77 and China on basic elements for an action programme for the sustainable development of small island developing States

At its 15th meeting, on 10 September 1993, the Preparatory Committee for the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States decided to request the Rapporteur, with the assistance of the Secretariat, to prepare a revised integrated and comprehensive working text, based on the revised version of the document entitled "Position of the Group of 77 and China on basic elements for an action programme for the sustainable development of small island developing States", which would take into account the comments and proposals made by delegations.

DECISION 11

Information needs on current donor activities in support of sustainable development in small island developing States

At its 15th meeting, on 10 September 1993, the Preparatory Committee for the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, having noted with appreciation the preliminary information supplied by United Nations agencies (A/CONF.167/PC/6) and taking into account the need for the Conference to have a clear account of current donor activities in support of sustainable development in small island developing States:

(a) Requested the Secretary-General, in consultation with the relevant United Nations agencies and organizations, to prepare a report containing relevant information on donor activities in support of sustainable development in small island developing States, and to invite bilateral regional and multilateral donor agencies, and non-governmental organizations to provide similar input to be included in the report, to be available for Member States by January 1994;

(b) Also requested that the Secretariat use the guidelines outlined below in presenting the report:

(i) Information to be grouped under the headings contained in document A/CONF.167/PC/L.5;

(ii) General information on subprogramme, including objectives;

(iii) Name of sponsoring agency;

(iv) Amount of funds and, where applicable, source;

(v) Where applicable, name of co-sponsor and amount provided;

(vi) Where applicable, name of implementing agency;

(vii) Information to be aggregated at the subregional and sub-sector level;

(c) Further requested that, in preparing the report, particular attention be given to avoiding double-counting between agencies and between sectors, and to ensuring that presentations give a realistic picture of the current activities of agencies.

DECISION 12

Statement made by the representative of Vanuatu on behalf of the States members and observers of the Alliance of Small Island States

At its 15th meeting, on 10 September 1993, the Preparatory Committee for the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States decided to annex the statement made on 30 August 1993 by the representative of Vanuatu on behalf of the States members and observers of the Alliance of Small Island States, to the report of the Committee on its first session.

DECISION 13

The Preparatory Committee for the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States decided to recommend to the Conference the adoption of the following provisional agenda:

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES

1. Opening of the Conference.

2. Election of the President.

3. Adoption of the rules of procedure.

4. Adoption of the agenda.

5. Election of officers other than the President.

6. Organization of work, including establishment of the Main Committee of the Conference.

7. Credentials of representatives to the Conference:

    (a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;

    (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.

8. General debate.

9. Consideration of plans and programmes to support the sustainable development of small island developing States and the utilization of their marine and coastal resources, which includes meeting essential human needs, maintaining biodiversity, and improving the quality of life for island people, as well as measures that will enable small island developing States to cope effectively, creatively and in a sustainable manner with environmental changes and to mitigate the impacts on and reduce the threats posed to marine and coastal resources.

10. Adoption of the report of the Conference.

ANNEX I

Documents before the Preparatory Committee at its first session

Document number	Agenda item	Title or description
A/CONF.167/PC/4	5	Draft report of the Preparatory Committee on its organizational session
A/CONF.167/PC/5 and Corr.1	1	Annotated provisional agenda
A/CONF.167/PC/6	2 (a)	Overview of system-wide activities relevant to General Assembly resolution 47/189: report of the Secretary-General
A/CONF.167/PC/7	2 (c)	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the report of the Regional Technical Meeting for the Indian and Pacific Oceans, held at Port Vila from 31 May to 4 June 1993
A/CONF.167/PC/8	2 (c)	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the report of the Regional Technical Meeting for the Atlantic, the Caribbean and the Mediterranean, held at Port-of-Spain from 12 to 16 July 1993
A/CONF.167/PC/9	2	Activities of the Conference secretariat and other matters: report of the Secretary-General
A/CONF.167/PC/10 and Corr.1	3	Sustainable development of small island developing States: report of the Secretary-General
A/CONF.167/PC/11	1	Provisional agenda for the Conference
A/CONF.167/PC/L.4	2 (d)	Participation of non-governmental organizations in the preparatory process: note by the Secretariat
A/CONF.167/PC/L.5 and Add.1 and Rev.1	1	Group of 77 and China: basic elements for an action programme for the sustainable development of small island developing States
A/CONF.167/PC/L.6	5	Draft report of the Preparatory Committee on its first session
A/CONF.167/PC/L.7	3	Australia, Canada, Iceland, Japan and New Zealand: draft decision

ANNEX II

Statement made on 30 August 1993 by the representative of Vanuatu on behalf of the States members and observers of the Alliance of Small Island States

I have the honour and privilege of speaking today on behalf of the 41 member States and observers of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS).

Once again, it gives us great pleasure to welcome the Chairman to New York, and to see her preside over the deliberations of the Preparatory Committee for the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States. The enthusiasm and dedication with which she has approached her tasks are very much appreciated by all of us. We also appreciate the commitment and efforts of the other members of the Bureau, as well as those of the members of the Secretariat.

Our friend, the distinguished Under-Secretary-General of the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development, has, we believe, accurately placed the Conference and this preparatory process in its proper context in the broader post-Rio de Janeiro world. This process is indeed an early litmus test of the international community's intentions and resolve with respect to the broad range of commitments and undertakings that were the cornerstones of the entire process of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held at Rio de Janeiro. That process is also a test of how well all of us - large and small, developed and developing, rich and poor, island and non-island - will work together in addressing issues of sustainable development.

The opening statement of the Chairman exhibited the candour and clarity for which she is held in such high esteem. Knowing her as we do, we expected nothing less and are pleased with what we heard. She, and everyone else participating in this preparatory process, have our assurances that throughout the entire process the membership of AOSIS will be practical, focused, and specific. The Conference presents a rather unique opportunity which we simply cannot afford to squander. Furthermore, we believe that the issues to be discussed throughout this process are of such importance to every nation that none can afford to see this opportunity squandered.

The distinguished representative of Colombia, speaking on behalf of the Group of 77, has, in an eloquent manner, spoken for us in opening this debate. We, of course, associate ourselves in full with his statement.

All of the members of AOSIS are developing countries. As such, we share with other developing countries somewhat similar historical perspectives, vulnerabilities and limitations. We also harbour somewhat similar dreams and ambitions for the future well-being of our respective countries and the entire planet. None the less, there are some very important circumstances, vulnerabilities, and limitations that are unique to small island developing countries. As a consequence, there are also some rather unique constraints on the dreams and ambitions of the people who inhabit small island developing countries. These unique circumstances, vulnerabilities, and limitations, as well as the constraints on the dreams and ambitions of our people, will be our specific focus throughout the process leading to the Conference in Barbados next year, at the Conference itself, and thereafter.

During the organizational session of the Preparatory Committee, considerable progress was made, thanks to the constructive atmosphere and the goodwill exhibited by all who participated in that session. We look forward to a successful outcome of our substantive deliberations during the current session of the Committee.

However, before turning to the substance of our deliberations, we ask delegations to once again direct their attention to the subject of the guidelines for the work of the Preparatory Committee (part one of the present report, chap. VI, decision 2). Delegations may recall that we proposed the deletion of a paragraph from the guidelines that we initially believed would be helpful to the Committee's deliberations. The paragraph in question described Agenda 21 as the framework to be followed for the outcome of the Conference while stating that the Conference should not seek to duplicate Agenda 21, but rather to address its implementation in relation to small island developing States with the focus being on the problems and needs specific to small island developing States.

Unfortunately, a few delegations were unable to agree with the language of that paragraph. Thus, we felt compelled to propose its deletion. However, although that paragraph no longer appears in the guidelines, we ourselves will be guided by the spirit and intent of the paragraph. We will certainly not seek to duplicate Agenda 21. Instead, we will address ourselves to its implementation in relation to small island developing States with our focus being on the problems and needs that are specific to those States. It is our hope that the important substantive deliberations of the Preparatory Committee can now proceed on this basis.

Turning to the substance of those deliberations, we are pleased that the Secretariat has been thorough in producing documents for the Preparatory Committee. These documents, as well as the two reports (A/CONF.167/PC/7 and A/CONF.167/PC/8) on the regional technical meetings held as part of the preparatory process, will be helpful as we work our way through the Committee's agenda.

In particular, we appreciate the effort that went into the production of A/CONF.167/PC/6 and A/CONF.167/PC/10. The former presents an overview of United Nations system-wide activities relevant to the sustainable development of small island developing States. Its main utility is in the general background information it provides. The latter is the Secretary-General's report on the special problems of small island developing States, priority areas for their sustainable development, and possible avenues of implementation. This document effectively highlights many of the key issues and constraints in the sustainable development of small island developing States. However, neither of these documents tells the entire story.

The complexities of, and the constraints on, the sustainable development of small island developing States are such that it is doubtful that any single report or set of reports could ever tell the entire story. Small island developing States, while sharing many similarities, also have their own diversities. While most are multi-island States, some are composed of single islands. Some are volcanic archipelagos. Others are very small atolls. Some are heavily forested. Others are fairly barren and drought-prone. Some possess moderately diversified economies. Others are highly dependent on overseas remittances which can fluctuate significantly from year to year. None the less, within this diversity there are certain shared characteristics that are themselves highly significant.

First and foremost are the disadvantages which derive from small size and relative geographic remoteness. These are magnified by the fact that most small island developing States comprise a number of small islands, which itself has a strong impact upon the development of national infrastructure and on the effectiveness and costs of both external and internal transportation and communications.

There is usually a narrow range of resources which forces undue economic specialization, excessive dependence on international trade, and hence a much higher than normal degree of vulnerability to global economic developments. A number of small island developing States also face severe population stresses which increase the pressures on limited natural resources and impact upon the rate of economic growth. A number also have minimal renewable fresh water resources.

Small island developing States also tend to have very high degrees of endemism. Although the number of species per square kilometre tends to be high, the relatively small numbers in the various species, and population stresses, result in higher risks and greater rates of extinction. This should generate greater interest on the part of the international community given its recent well-documented concern for the conservation of biodiversity - if not for human diversity.

A number of popular misconceptions exist with respect to small island developing States. Some believe that small island developing States are not doing so badly. While this may in a certain sense be true for a small handful, the fact remains that most small island developing States are not doing well at all and face very uncertain economic and ecological futures.

To illustrate our perspective on this subject, we have attached a graphic summary of certain characteristics and vulnerabilities of small island developing States. Contrary to the popular belief in some quarters, per capita national income and overseas development assistance for small island developing States are not disproportionately higher than they are for other developing States with small populations. In addition, it should be borne in mind that per capita income figures for all small developing countries are very misleading. The costs of providing essential basic services such as health, education, communications, and transportation in small developing countries are considerably higher, owing to the lack of economies of scale. Thus, one can easily be misled by placing undue reliance on inadequate measures such as per capita income. This is one important respect in which we believe that the Secretariat's papers do not present a completely accurate picture.

Some might believe it best that we ignore this issue in the hope that it will go away. However, we prefer to be candid and put the statistics that are commonly relied upon in their proper perspective. It is only through candour and careful analysis that we will be able to present a compelling case for raising international awareness of, interest in, and support for, the sustainable development of small island developing States.

The other data set forth in our graphic summary clearly illustrate the trade dependency and the very high degree of environmental stresses that characterize small island developing States; 13 of the 25 countries most prone to serious natural disasters are small island developing States. Indeed, the deeper one probes, the more compelling the case becomes and the more convincing are the arguments in favour of increasing the effectiveness of existing programmes and the development of a number of new measures to assist in the sustainable development of small island developing States.

Before leaving this topic, we remind everyone of the most dramatic shared characteristic and vulnerability of small island developing States. By now, the world is well aware of the threat posed to the survival of highly vulnerable small island developing States as a result of the adverse consequences of human-induced climate change. Global warming, and the attendant accelerated sealevel rise which threatens the very existence of at least a dozen small atoll States, is to those States neither a remote nor an abstract matter. This is an impending global disaster of unprecedented magnitude. It is for us a major and constant preoccupation.

The process begun at Rio de Janeiro was one of nurturing and developing a global partnership to help save this planet for future generations. It is appropriate to bear in mind that the small island developing States do not come to this important process empty-handed. We contribute significantly to global sustainability in many important areas. We have already discussed terrestrial biodiversity. Let us briefly touch upon a few other areas in which we contribute significant global benefits.

The global significance of the highly endangered coral reef ecosystems of small island developing States is unquestionable. Coral reefs are the marine equivalent of tropical rain forests, and are of equal importance in sustaining the delicate balance of life on this planet. Unfortunately, they are also among the most endangered of the world's ecosystems. Their effective protection should be a matter of global concern.

The vast expanses of ocean within the exclusive economic zones of small island developing States are among the world's most important sinks for greenhouse gas emissions. The oceans absorb far more carbon dioxide - the main greenhouse gas - than the entire land mass of the planet. Small island developing States, which have contributed very little to the phenomenon of global warming, yet which are the most vulnerable to its adverse consequences, are also among the most significant contributors to its mitigation.

Ironically, there are those who insist on looking primarily at the size of countries in determining whether projects in those countries provide so-called "global benefits" making them eligible for funding under certain financial mechanisms. Small island developing States cannot help but wonder why their countries were deemed capable of providing global benefits when it came time for other nations to fight their wars or test their weapons of mass destruction. We make this observation without a trace of bitterness or recrimination but rather with a sense of amazement that anyone could, in this increasingly interdependent world, logically insist on maintaining a firm distinction between what are termed "global benefits" and what are labelled "local benefits". While we agree with the concept of global benefits, we are deeply troubled by the manner in which that term has, up to now, been defined, and by whom it has been defined.

Small island developing States are major donors in another area: our waters are among the world's few remaining reservoirs of important global fish stocks which are not yet over-fished. The world's fish landings for major species are now believed to exceed sustainable yields and have begun to decline. With half of all tuna landings now coming from the exclusive economic zones of small island developing States, the world is becoming increasingly dependent on fish which, at some stage of their lives, reside within the waters of those States. However, those fish, including pelagic straddling stocks, are also threatened. Currently, small island developing States do not possess sufficient resources to assure the conservation of fish stocks. Assistance in the development of the necessary resources to assure such conservation should certainly be seen as providing a global as opposed to a local benefit.

Another example of a major contribution by small island developing States also happens to be one of the most obvious. Tourism is the global industry which is most closely identified with small island developing States. The breathtaking natural beauty and outward calm serenity of island environments attract tourists from all over the world. A recent phenomenon is eco-tourism with its emphasis on sustainable development, although a number of recent studies question the merit of much that is labelled eco-tourism. Once again, it is difficult to calculate with anything approaching mathematical precision how much of the tourism industry is a global benefit and how much is a local benefit.

At this session of the Preparatory Committee, we trust that delegations will be prepared to take the important step of moving our deliberations from the stage of informing and raising awareness to the next stage. This, of course, involves examining various existing programmes and suggesting ways of enhancing their effectiveness. It also means considering new measures to implement policies that will help fill existing gaps in the landscape - or seascape - of sustainable development for small island developing States. All of this entails the production of proposals at this session which will be practical, focused, and specific.

We have a great interest in working with every delegation represented at this session to assure that what we produce is practical, focused, and specific. Small island developing States are already drowning, figuratively speaking, in documents, proposals, consultants, and technical experts that produce little of long-term lasting benefit, but which strain our capacity to absorb and effectively utilize the many volumes of papers produced while also consuming the scarce time of our development and planning officials.

Given the current state of affairs, time may very soon prove to be the scarcest of all commodities in small island developing States. We simply do not know how much time we have left before our worst fears about global warming and sealevel rise might be realized. This state of affairs weighs heavily on our minds and certainly conditioned our thinking as AOSIS very carefully considered the possible elements for a plan of action for the sustainable development of small island developing States. The ideas or possible elements for a plan of action that follow are still evolving and are certainly not intended to be exhaustive. None the less, we hope that others will agree with us on these possible elements, support the ideas contained within them, and be moved to favourable action.

In proposing these elements for a plan of action, we begin by stating what should be obvious - but may not be to everyone. Sustainable development is not something which is amenable to either a simple or a quick fix. Instead, it is a long-term process which requires new thinking and creative action. The sustainable development of small island developing States, like sustainable development generally, will require the modification - in varying degrees - of national, regional, and international policies across virtually all sectors.

We are constantly urged to use the powerful forces of the market to encourage sustainability. However, in order to work most effectively, the market requires that consumers and producers have accurate information and pricing mechanisms which encourage patterns of behaviour that are consistent with sustainability. For the most part, these do not yet exist in small island developing States, nor do they exist in other countries, particularly those whose patterns of trade affect small island developing States. Even if the various changes that are required were understood and endorsed at this very moment, the details would still require years to elaborate and implement. Even more years will pass before meaningful effects are realized.

Generally speaking, the financial, human, and physical resources of small island developing States are very limited. Adaptation to a rapidly changing international economic environment requires ready access to a wide range of up-to-date information, materials, and services including affordable communications and transport which we generally lack. The populations of small island developing States will never be large. Therefore, we must substitute quantity with qualitatively improved skills and a high degree of versatility and technical competence through national and regional capacity-building.

To meet these needs in a flexible and effective manner, we believe that at the outset it is important to enhance and further develop existing technical assistance programmes for small island developing States and to create such programmes where none currently exist. This will require very close and effective coordination between national, regional, and international bodies. It is a most important first step upon which other specific actions will have to be based. Effective inter-agency coordination is also essential to eliminate unnecessary duplication and to assure the timely and effective communication of relevant information.

Another essential step is the completion of the ratification process and entry into force of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Like many others, we would then like to see the Convention strengthened and adequate mechanisms developed to provide the resources necessary to monitor and assess the impacts of climate change; to devise, prepare, facilitate and take measures necessary to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change; and to develop and implement effective coastal zone management plans. The latter, in particular, will be greatly enhanced by the development of regional coordination, capacity-building, and uniform building codes and standards.

The development of improved early warning systems is also crucial to minimize the damage caused by natural disasters. In addition, better methods of risk assessment and the development of creative but equitable ideas with respect to the creation of international insurance pools could be an integral part of coastal zone management planning and follow from the implementation of uniform building codes and standards.

The improvement of sewage treatment facilities for the main populated areas and tourist areas of small island developing States is critical. This should be given greater priority by various multilateral and bilateral funding sources. In addition, the dumping of wastes and the polluting of island waters and coastal regions require stronger international measures against foreign vessels which dispose of wastes within the coastal zones of small island developing States. National action alone will not be sufficient. It is essential that regional and international measures be closely tied to national policies in this regard.

Regional and international organizations should work closely with national Governments to regulate the traffic in hazardous wastes. The right of small island developing States to ban or regulate the import of hazardous wastes should be respected and enhanced through the progressive development of international legal measures. Furthermore, industrialized nations should be encouraged to collect and safely dispose of the significant amounts of PCBs currently stored within small island developing States.

Effective regional and international programmes to enhance the capacity of small island developing States to develop and implement appropriate environmental legislation are very important. International environmental law is an increasingly complex subject which requires careful analysis with respect to its applicability to various bodies of national law. Regional and international organizations have a crucial role to play in this respect.

The negotiations currently under way on the conservation of certain fish stocks must be carefully monitored for their applicability to small island developing States. Distant fishing nations which have not yet done so should be encouraged by regional and international organizations to enter into agreements which provide equitable returns to small island developing States and help them maintain catches within sustainable limits. The effective monitoring of such agreements and assistance in surveillance should be provided by regional and international organizations.

With respect to the conservation of biodiversity, reviving the coral reefs of small island developing States is extremely important to the entire globe. This requires far more effective protection of entire coastal zone areas than currently exists against pollution, erosion, and sedimentation. Furthermore, small island developing States should be compensated for establishing coral reef ecosystems in remote areas as protected reserves providing global benefits.

It can be argued that small island developing States are already net greenhouse gas sinks. None the less, we are willing to do even more. In particular, small island developing States are generally prepared to consider ways of increasing energy efficiency. Regional and international organizations should provide assistance to small island developing States in developing various mechanisms to address this subject and related matters of technology transfer. With respect to all forms of technology, regional and international organizations should consider ways of assisting in the development and application of endogenous and indigenous technologies.

International trade and the terms of trade are vital to small island developing States, as they are to all developing countries. Small island developing States are the most dependent upon trade, particularly on food imports. A comprehensive assessment of the likely effects of trade liberalization on small island developing States should be undertaken by appropriate regional and international organizations with a view to developing recommendations for reducing negative effects. Such an assessment should be carefully coordinated to avoid repetition and inter-agency overlaps or gaps.

Fresh water resources are very precious in small island developing States. In particular, the fresh water resources of small atolls are threatened by sealevel rise, changing rain patterns, contamination, and overuse. Small island developing States are in urgent need of regional and international cooperation to assist in the development and implementation of integrated water resource plans.

These are but a few of our ideas on the sustainable development of small island developing States and effective measures to implement that sustainable development. In the days to come, we will expound upon and amplify these ideas. We will also listen most attentively to the ideas of others.

The challenges facing small island developing States cannot be overcome by our efforts alone. The worsening environmental and economic pressures we face are the result of events which are for the most part, although certainly not entirely, beyond our control. Much is being done by our respective Governments and our respective regional organizations. We are frequently the fortunate beneficiaries of considerable goodwill and cooperation from the international community. This is very much appreciated. However, in some important respects we are the unfortunate victims of a lack of awareness by the international community and neglect of some of our most basic needs. In other instances, we are also the victims of too much attention of an inappropriate nature.

Our ideas on an effective plan of action to address the sustainable development of small island developing States are rather modest. We realize, better than most, that the world's resources are not infinite. This is true whether one is speaking of natural resources or financial resources. Unfortunately, some always seem to recall the limits of one but not the limits of the other. This unfortunate forgetfulness has contributed in a significant manner to the general problem the world faces today with respect to sustainable development.

Generally speaking, we have always respected the physical and spiritual power of our environment. Our islands, our oceans, and our atmosphere give and sustain life. Nothing could be more revered. Accordingly, we learned at an early age to demand more of ourselves than we do of others. Throughout this process and in the aftermath of the Conference in Barbados, we will continue to demand more of ourselves than we do of others. However, we do ask that we, our needs, and our priorities be taken seriously by all.

ANNEX III

Draft Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Explanatory note

This draft programme of action is based on the "Position of the Group of 77 and China on basic elements for an action programme for the sustainable development of small island developing States" (A/CONF.167/PC/L.5/Rev.1). It incorporates amendments proposed by delegations during the session of the Preparatory Committee and corrections submitted in writing to the Secretariat subsequent to that session.

Amendments to sections I to XIV that have been negotiated and agreed *ad referendum* by the Committee have been incorporated in the text. Text that has not been agreed has also been incorporated in the draft and is shown in square brackets. As substantive negotiations have yet to take place on the preamble and section XV, these two sections have been placed in square brackets in their entirety. Amendments proposed by delegations to the preamble and section XV are shown separately immediately following the text they relate to, unless otherwise indicated. In each case, only the delegation which proposed the amendment is indicated.

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[PREAMBLE

[United States of America: Insert at the beginning of the Preamble:

In 1992, at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the world community adopted Agenda 21. In that document, the international community committed itself:

(a) To adopt and implement plans and programmes to support the sustainable development and utilization of their marine and coastal resources, including meeting essential human needs, maintaining biodiversity and improving the quality of life for island people;

(b) To adopt measures which will enable small island developing States to cope effectively, creatively and sustainably with environmental change and to mitigate impacts and reduce threats posed to marine and coastal resources.

These commitments were later incorporated into General Assembly resolution 47/189 of 22 December 1992, in which the Assembly called for a Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

This programme of action identifies specific actions necessary to address the special challenges faced by small island developing States. In fulfilling these actions, several general cross-cutting areas - capacity-building, including human resource development, national institutions and administrative capacity-building; technology cooperation; and trade and economic diversification - are identified.]

[European Community: Delete the second and third paragraphs proposed by the United States above.]

1. Although they are afflicted by economic difficulties and confronted by development imperatives similar to those of developing countries generally, small island developing States also have their own peculiar vulnerabilities and characteristics, so that the difficulties they face in the pursuit of sustainable development are particularly severe and complex.

[European Community: Incorporate the following in paragraph 1:

Small island developing States have valuable development resources, such as in the field of oceans, coastal environments and biodiversity. Their potential should be recognized, but used in a sustainable way in order to safeguard the well-being of present and future generations.]

2. There are many disadvantages which derive from small size. These are magnified by the fact that many island States are not only small but are themselves made up of a number of small islands. Disadvantages include a narrow range of resources, which forces undue specialization; excessive dependence on international trade and hence vulnerability to global developments; high population density, which increases the pressure on already limited resources; overuse of resources and premature depletion; relatively small watersheds, which could easily reach or be reduced below the critical minimum; costly public administration and infrastructure, including transportation and communication; and limited institutional capacities and domestic markets, which are too small to provide significant economies of scale, while their limited export volumes,

sometimes from remote locations, lead to high freight costs and reduced competitiveness. Small islands tend to have high degrees of endemism and levels of biodiversity (number of species per square kilometre), but the relatively small numbers of the various species impose high risks of extinction and create a need for protection.

3. The small size of small island developing States means that development and environment are closely interrelated and interdependent. Recent human history contains examples of entire islands rendered uninhabitable through environmental destruction; small island developing States are fully aware that the environmental consequences of ill-conceived development can have catastrophic effects. Unsustainable development threatens not only the livelihood of people but also the islands themselves and the cultures they nurture. Climate change, climate variability and sealevel rise are issues of grave concern. Similarly, the biological resources on which small island developing States depend are threatened by the large-scale exploitation of marine and terrestrial living resources.

[European Community: Replace the first sentence of paragraph 3 with the following:

The smallness of small island developing States and the fact that they are coastal entities means that the environment and coastal management are interrelated and this calls for an integrated management of resources.]

4. Many small island developing States are entirely or predominantly coastal entities. This requires that in pursuing development, special attention be paid to protecting the environment. It also requires the integrated management of resources. Owing to the small size, isolation and fragility of island ecosystems, their renowned biological diversity is among the most threatened in the world.

5. Although their population density may be high, many small island developing States have small populations in absolute terms and thus limited scope for the full utilization of certain types of highly specialized expertise. They experience high levels of migration, particularly of skilled human resources, which not only places an undue burden on training facilities but forces small island developing States to import high-cost foreign expertise.

[Australia: After the first sentence of paragraph 5 add the following:

In some countries the rate of population growth exceeds the rate of economic growth, placing serious and increasing pressure on the capacity of Governments to provide basic services to their peoples.]

6. The search for economies of scale, together with their narrow resource base, tends to limit the total production of small island developing States to a narrow range of crops, minerals and industries. Any adverse development concerning these productive sectors, whether arising from market factors, natural or environmental constraints, is likely to lead to significant reductions in output, a fall in foreign-exchange earnings and increased unemployment.

7. Partly because of their small size and partly because of their vulnerability to natural and environmental disasters, small island developing States are often classified as high-risk entities, which has led to insurance and reinsurance being either unavailable or exorbitantly expensive, with adverse

consequences for investment, production costs, government finances and infrastructure.

[European Community: Delete paragraph 7.]

8. Because the per capita income of many small island developing States tends to be higher than that of developing countries as a group, they have been excluded from access to concessionary resources. Analysis of the economic performance of small island developing States, however, suggests that current incomes are often facilitated by migrant remittances, preferential market access for some major exports and assistance from the international community. These sources are neither endogenous nor secure. Furthermore, incomes of small island developing States have generally been unsustainable over time: natural disasters, difficulties in the international market for particular commodities and recession in some developed economies often reduce incomes in small island developing States dramatically, sometimes by as much as 20 to 30 per cent of gross domestic product in a single year.

[European Community: Place paragraph 8 in square brackets.]

9. Because small island development options are limited, they present special challenges to planning for and implementing sustainable development. Small island developing States will be constrained in meeting these challenges without the cooperation and assistance of the international community (see Agenda 21, 1/ para. 17.127).

[European Community: Delete paragraph 9.]

[United States: Insert the following after paragraph 9:

The sustainable development of small island developing States requires actions that address the above-mentioned constraints to development. These actions should integrate environmental considerations and natural resource conservation objectives into the development of social and economic development policies in international, regional, subregional and/or bilateral cooperative programmes related to islands.

Planning for sustainable development involves the identification of the constraints to and options for sustainable economic development, including options for economic diversification. It requires, in particular, professional expertise in a broad range of disciplines and sufficient information on which to make appropriate decisions. In striving to undertake this planning, it must be recognized that small islands are particularly dependent on foreign imports and are constrained in their options for export, owing to limited resources and limited access to markets.

Sustainable development planning should be used to address the main constraints to effective action: inappropriate policies, institutional weaknesses, insufficiently trained personnel, limited opportunities for education, insufficient involvement of the public in decision-making and lack of diffusion of appropriate technologies.]

10. Sharing a common aspiration for economic development and improved living standards, small island developing States are determined that the pursuit of material benefits should not undermine cultural values or cause any permanent

harm to the land and marine resources which have sustained island life for many centuries.

11. In establishing the new global partnership for sustainable development, countries have recognized the need for special priority to be given to those that are most environmentally vulnerable (see the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, 2/ Principle 6). More specifically, under chapter 17.G of Agenda 21 small island developing States and islands supporting small communities are recognized as a special case for both environment and development, because they are ecologically fragile and vulnerable and their small size, limited resources, geographic dispersion and isolation from markets all place them at a disadvantage economically and prevent economies of scale (see Agenda 21, para. 17.124).

[United States: After the words "sustainable development" in the first sentence of paragraph 11, delete "countries have ... Principle 6)" and insert the following:

..., the Rio Declaration, Principle 6, states that the special situation and needs of developing countries, particularly the least developed and those most environmentally vulnerable, shall be given special priority.]

[European Community: Delete paragraph 11.]

12. The following framework programme of action addresses the special challenges and constraints facing small island developing States. Because sustainable development is a process, not a phenomenon, the framework programme of action focuses on the next steps that can be taken along the comprehensive path to sustainable development that was detailed in the regional technical meetings held in preparation for the Global Conference, a path which will follow the principles endorsed by Governments at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. The programme contains a synopsis of actions and policies that should be implemented over the short, medium and long term. These are elaborated in greater detail in the reports of the regional technical meetings, which contain a broader collection of actions that will be required over the longer term.

[European Community: Delete from "that was detailed" in the second sentence of paragraph 12 to the end of the paragraph.]

[United States: Place square brackets in paragraph 12 around: "framework", "that was detailed in the ... Global Conference" and the last sentence.]

13. Within this context, and in accordance with the objectives defined in General Assembly resolution 47/189, the framework action programme presents a basis for action under 15 agreed priority areas and defines a number of actions and policies related to environmental and development planning that should be undertaken by small island developing States with the cooperation and assistance of the international community. Elements for inclusion in the medium-term and long-term sustainable development plans of small island developing States are recommended, together with necessary measures for enhancing the endogenous capacity of small island developing States. Regional approaches to sustainable development/environment problems and technical cooperation for endogenous capacity-building are proposed; and the role of the international community is outlined, including access to adequate, predictable, new and additional

financial resources and mechanisms in accordance with chapter 33 of Agenda 21, and measures for endogenous capacity-building, in particular for developing human resources and promoting access by small island developing States to environmentally sound and energy-efficient technology for their sustainable development.

[United States: Delete the last sentence of paragraph 13. Place square brackets around "framework" in the first sentence.]

[European Community: Insert the following sentence after the first sentence of paragraph 13:

In this context, non-governmental organizations and other major groups should be fully involved.]

14. The present programme of action shall be consistent with and does not duplicate a number of parallel international processes important to the sustainable development of small island developing States, which contain relevant provisions. These processes include the Commission on Sustainable Development; the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change; the Convention on Biological Diversity; 3/ the United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks; the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea; 4/ the International Conference on Population and Development; the intergovernmental negotiations on land-based sources of marine pollution of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification; and the World Coast Conference. Support for the participation of small island developing States in these processes will be important and these processes will need to reflect the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

[United States: Insert the following new sentence after the first sentence of paragraph 14:

As small island developing States develop their approaches for sustainable development, the international community should pursue specific actions that will improve the capacity of small islands to address a number of specific issues, making the most efficient use possible of opportunities in other international forums to craft an integrated and comprehensive approach.]

[United States: Add the following new paragraph after paragraph 14:

In describing the programme of action, several general cross-cutting areas are identified: capacity-building, including human resource development, national institutions and administrative capacity-building, technology cooperation and trade and economic diversification.]

[European Community: Delete the second sentence of paragraph 14.]

15. As recognized in Agenda 21, Governments will be primarily responsible for the implementation of this programme of action. The sustainable development of small island developing States will require the development of national strategies, plans, policies and processes. International cooperation will be essential to support and complement such national efforts. The United Nations system has a key role to play, in close cooperation and coordination with other

international, regional and subregional organizations, which are called upon to contribute in large measure to this effort. For small island developing States, regional and subregional efforts have proved successful and will remain the principal instruments for collective action. Finally, as recommended in Agenda 21, the broadest public participation and the active involvement of non-governmental organizations and other groups are encouraged.

[European Community: In the second sentence of paragraph 15, after the word "national", add the words "and regional".]

[European Community: Delete the fourth sentence of paragraph 15.]

[United States: Insert the following text at the beginning of paragraph 15:

The Conference is the first global conference on sustainable development and the implementation of Agenda 21. Agenda 21 represents a comprehensive document, carefully negotiated, and wherever referred to in this programme of action it should be looked to as a whole.]

[Canada: Replace the last sentence of paragraph 15 with the following:

Consistent with Agenda 21, it will also require the engagement and active participation of major groups, including women, children and youth, indigenous people and their communities, non-governmental organizations, local authorities, workers and their trade unions, business and industry, the scientific and technological community, and farmers.]

[Iceland: Add the following words at the end of the second sentence of paragraph 15:

... including the broadest public participation and the active involvement of major groups and non-governmental organizations.]

[Iceland: Delete the last sentence of paragraph 15.]

[European Community: New paragraph 16:

In the implementation of the relevant programme areas, special attention should be given to the specificity of individual countries or groups of countries among the small island developing States.]

I. CLIMATE CHANGE AND SEALEVEL RISE

Basis for action

16. Small island developing States are particularly vulnerable to global climate change, climate variability and sealevel rise. As most populations, agricultural lands and infrastructures of small island developing States exist in the coastal zone, any rise in sealevel will have significant and profound effects on the economies of these countries. The very survival of certain low-lying countries would be threatened by sealevel rise. Inundation of outlying islands and loss of land above the high-tide mark may result in loss of exclusive economic rights over extensive areas. Global climate change may damage coral reefs, alter the distribution of zones of upwelling and may affect both subsistence and commercial fisheries production. Further, it may have an impact on vegetation and saline intrusion may adversely affect freshwater resources. The increased frequency and intensity of storm events that may result from climate change will also have profound effects on both the economies and the environments of small island developing States. All of the relevant information is required concerning all these aspects of climate change as it may affect small island developing States to enable appropriate response strategies to be developed and implemented.

[17. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is expected to make a significant contribution to reducing the threat of climate change as well as mitigating and assisting countries to adapt to the impacts of climate change and sealevel rise. The Convention, however, does not contain targets and timetables for the reduction of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions, and these are seen by small island developing States as essential to address climate change in any meaningful way. The development and use of renewable energy resources and the dissemination of sound and efficient energy technologies are also seen as having a central role in mitigating the adverse impacts of climate change. These issues can be addressed through elaboration of the Convention.]

[17 bis. The process established by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the ongoing negotiations of its Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee are important international actions aimed at addressing the threat of climate change, mitigating its adverse impacts on small island developing States and assisting them in adapting to the adverse consequences. It is not clear, however, that the commitments contained within article 4, paragraph 2 (a) and (b), of the Convention are adequate in relation to the emissions of greenhouse gases. The consideration at the first meeting of the Conference of the parties of that adequacy is of the utmost importance to small island developing States and the international community. The development and use of renewable energy resources and the dissemination of sound and efficient energy technologies are seen as having a central role in mitigating the adverse impact of climate change.]

A. National action, policies and measures

(i) Ensure early ratification or accession to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer and other related legal instruments.

(ii) Monitor, survey and collect data on climate change and sealevel rise.

(iii) Formulate comprehensive adjustment and mitigation policies for sealevel rise in the context of integrated coastal area management.

(iv) Assess the effects and the socio-economic implications of the impact of climate change, climate variability and sealevel rise on small island developing States.

(v) Map areas vulnerable to sealevel rise and develop computer-based information systems covering the results of surveys, assessments and observations as part of the development of adequate response strategies, adaptation policies and measures to minimize the impact of climate change, climate variability and sealevel rise.

(vi) Improve public and political understanding of the potential impacts of climate change.

(vii) Promote more efficient use of energy resources in development planning and use appropriate methods to minimize the adverse effects of climate change on the sustainable development of these resources.

(viii) Increase participation in bilateral, regional and global research, assessment, monitoring and mapping of climate impacts, including oceanographic and atmospheric measures and policies and the development of response strategies.

B. Regional action

(i) Create, and/or strengthen, programmes and projects to monitor and improve predictive capacity for climate change, climate variability and sealevel rise and to assess the impacts of climate change on marine resources, freshwater and agricultural production, including pests.

(ii) Develop and/or strengthen mechanisms to facilitate the exchange of information and experiences between small island developing States, and to promote technology transfer and training in small island developing States in response to climate change, including preparedness response.

(iii) Provide technical assistance for ratification or accession to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and assist those parties which have ratified the Convention to assume their major responsibilities under it.

C. International action

(i) Implement immediately the prompt-start resolution agreed to by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change.

(ii) Support small island developing States in responding to the call by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change for vulnerable coastal nations to develop integrated coastal zone management plans, including the development of adaptive response measures to the impacts of climate change and sealevel rise.

(iii) Provide improved access to financial and technical resources for monitoring climate variability and change and sealevel rise, for assessment of the impacts of climate change, and for the timely development and implementation of response adaptation strategies, recognizing the specific vulnerabilities and disproportionate cost borne by small island developing States.

(iv) Provide improved access to information from the activities carried out to reduce uncertainties of climate change and assist the inter-island exchange of this information.

(v) Provide access to environmentally sound and energy efficient technology to assist small island developing States to conserve energy.

(vi) Support the activities of intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations aimed at assisting small island developing States to cope effectively and creatively with climate change, climate variability and sealevel rise, including systems for systematic and continuous research, monitoring, surveying and data collection, and assessment of climate change, climate variability and sealevel rise, coral reefs, the role of oceans in the world climate, tidal variations and saltwater intrusion of freshwater.

II. NATURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL DISASTERS

Basis for action

18. Small island developing States are prone to extremely damaging natural disasters, primarily in the form of cyclones, volcanic eruptions and earthquakes. In some islands, those disasters include storm surges, landslides, extended droughts and extensive floods. A recent study by the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator has shown that at least 13 of the 25 most disaster-prone countries are small island developing States. Owing to climate change, such events, including drought, are perceived to be occurring with increasing frequency and intensity. Those natural disasters are of special concern to small island developing States because of their small size, narrow resource base and the pervasive impact of such events on their economies, including loss of insurance coverage. For those affected by those natural disasters, these particular characteristics mean that the economic, social and environmental consequences are long-lasting and the costs of rehabilitation are high as a percentage of gross national product. For similar reasons the impact of environmental disasters can also be severe.

A. National action, policies and measures

(i) Establish and/or strengthen disaster preparedness and management institutions and policies, including building codes, to mitigate, prepare for, and respond to the increasing range and frequency of natural and environmental disasters and promote early warning systems and facilities for the rapid dissemination of information and warnings.

(ii) Strengthen the capacity of local broadcasting to assist remote atolls in the country and neighbouring countries during disaster events.

(iii) Establish a national disaster emergency fund with joint private and public sector support for areas where insurance is not available in the commercial market, taking into account the relevant experience to be gained from the operation of similar funds.

(iv) Integrate natural and environmental disaster policies into national development planning and encourage the development of public and private sector disaster recovery plans, within the framework of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator, by the year 2000.

(v) Strengthen cultural and traditional systems that improve the resilience of local communities in disaster events.

B. Regional action

(i) Establish and/or strengthen, where appropriate, regional institutions to complement and support national efforts in disaster mitigation, preparedness and management.

(ii) Establish and/or strengthen, where appropriate, mechanisms for sharing experience, information and resources, including expertise, between small island developing States.

(iii) Increase access to telecommunication links and satellite facilities for disaster monitoring, assessment and information exchange.

(iv) Establish and/or strengthen existing regional mechanisms and communication systems for rapid response to disasters.

(v) Support the operation of a national disaster emergency fund, taking into account the relevant experience to be gained from the operation of similar funds, as well as the enactment of standardized building codes and relevant legislation.

C. International action

(i) Assist small island developing States to establish national and regional institutional mechanisms and policies to reduce the impacts of natural disasters, improve disaster preparedness and integrate natural disaster considerations in development planning, including through access to resources for disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.

(ii) Improve access to technology and relevant training to assist with hazard and risk assessment and early warning systems, and to assist with the protection of islands from environmental disasters consistent with national and regional strategies for disaster management.

(iii) Support and coordinate disaster warning and preparedness with the World Meteorological Organization and other relevant international organizations.

(iv) Encourage activities within the context of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction and the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction, to be held in May 1994, to give special recognition to small island developing States so that their unique characteristics will be taken into account in developing natural disaster reduction management programmes.

III. MANAGEMENT OF WASTES

Basis for action

19. The limited land areas and resources for safe disposal, growing populations and increasing imports of polluting and hazardous substances combine to make pollution prevention and the management of wastes a critical issue for small island developing States. Wastes in small island developing States tend to be highly visible, but because of their limited capacity to monitor the waste stream the true extent of the problem remains poorly understood. For small island developing States, the disposal of wastes is a serious constraint to sustainable development. Both land- and sea-based sources of pollution require urgent attention.

20. All small island developing States share the problem of safely disposing of solid and liquid wastes, particularly as a result of urbanization, resulting in contamination of groundwater and lagoon areas. Point source pollution from industrial wastes and sewage, inappropriately sited and poorly managed garbage dumps and disposal of toxic chemicals are significant contributors to marine pollution and coastal degradation. Land areas are limited, making the option of landfill disposal unsustainable in the long term. Incineration, while reducing the volume of wastes, is prohibitive in terms of cost and still requires disposal of ash containing potentially hazardous substances in high concentrations. Pressure on forests to provide fuelwood and to expand agricultural development, together with a high use of agricultural chemicals, also aggravates downstream pollution and sedimentation problems.

[21. There is also growing concern about the transboundary movement of toxic and hazardous waste, including the use of small island developing States for the disposal of waste generated by other countries. The isolation and oceanic location of small island developing States and their dependence on a marine and limited terrestrial resource base make them highly vulnerable to contamination by toxic and hazardous wastes and chemicals, and radioactive materials. The passage of oil tankers and ships carrying toxic and nuclear materials and wastes through the seas of small island developing States is now of priority concern.]

22. Given that long-term disposal options are limited and will constrain sustainable development, small island developing States will need to look for ways of minimizing wastes and/or converting wastes, such as sewage, into a resource (e.g. fertilizer for agriculture). This will include action ranging from limiting imports of non-biodegradable and hazardous substances to changing community attitudes to the disposal and use of sewage. In the short term, existing wastes require effective disposal, but at the same time incentives to continue waste generation should be avoided.

A. National action, policies and measures

(i) Develop fiscal and policy incentives and other measures to encourage environmentally sustainable imports and local products with low waste or degradable waste content.

(ii) Develop and implement appropriate regulatory measures, including emission discharge and pollution standards, for the reduction, prevention, control and monitoring of pollution from all sources and for the safe and efficient management of toxic, hazardous and solid wastes, including sewage, herbicides, pesticides and industrial and hospital effluent, together with proper management of disposal sites.

(iii) Ratify and implement relevant conventions, including the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal 5/ and the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter (London Convention of 1972), 6/ and relevant regional conventions.

(iv) Formulate and implement public awareness and education campaigns designed to gain local recognition of the need to control wastes at the source, the value of reuse and recycling, of appropriate packaging, and of the possibilities of converting wastes to resources in culturally appropriate ways.

(v) Introduce clean technologies and treatment of waste at the source and appropriate technology for solid waste treatment.

(vi) Develop information systems and baseline data for waste management and pollution control, monitoring the types and quantities of wastes, for both land- and sea-based sources of pollution.

(vii) Establish port reception facilities for the collection of waste in accordance with annex V to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL 73/78). 7/

B. Regional action

(i) Develop regional pollution prevention programmes, including regional centres for pollution prevention, involving demonstration projects, workshops and multimedia presentations tailored to specific groups, the development of economic incentives to further pollution prevention and waste management, relevant legislation, a coordinated and focused monitoring programme and, where appropriate, the development of waste management and prevention trust funds.

(ii) Remove and dispose of existing hazardous wastes, such as polychlorinated biphenyls, with the technical assistance of developed countries.

(iii) Establish clearing-houses and increase the collection and synthesis of data and information on the sources, levels, amounts, kinds, trends and effects of pollution and waste on marine and coastal systems, and on processes and technology to address pollution control from land- and sea-based sources.

(iv) Establish regional mechanisms, including conventions where appropriate, to protect the oceans, seas and coastal areas from ship-generated waste, oil spills and the transboundary movement of toxic and hazardous waste, consistent with international law.

(v) Examine ways to resolve disputes concerning waste disposal practices affecting small islands and encourage a collaborative examination of the issues of liability and redress in the context of the Basel Convention.

(vi) Facilitate the formulation and implementation of public awareness and education campaigns designed to gain local recognition of the need to control wastes at the source, the value of reuse and recycling, of appropriate packaging, and of the possibilities for converting wastes to resources in culturally appropriate ways.

C. International action

(i) Support the strengthening of national and regional capabilities to carry out pollution monitoring and research and to formulate and apply pollution control and abatement measures.

(ii) Support the strengthening of institutions to provide assistance to Governments and industry in the adoption of clean production technologies as well as for the prevention of pollution and in the handling, treatment and disposal of hazardous wastes.

(iii) Accept the right of small island developing States to regulate, restrict and/or ban the importation of products containing non-biodegradable and/or hazardous substances and to prohibit the transboundary movement of hazardous and radioactive wastes and materials within their jurisdiction, consistent with international law.

[(iv) Ensure that the international conventions and related negotiations on [land-based sources of] marine pollution, including any amendments to the London Convention of 1972, take into account the interests and capacities of small island developing States.]

[(v) Improve the capacity of small island developing States for the negotiation and the follow-up of international conventions and related negotiations on land-based sources of marine pollution, including any amendments to the London Convention of 1972.]

(vi) Assist the implementation of monitoring and pollution prevention programmes and the establishment of port reception facilities for the collection of waste in accordance with annex V to MARPOL 73/78. 7/

(vii) Enhance international cooperation in the establishment of waste management facilities, the control of toxic chemicals and pollution prevention as components of international investment projects, whether funded by multilateral or private sources.

(viii) Assist small island developing States to assess the impact of land-based sources of marine pollution and to develop mechanisms to eliminate or minimize the pollution source.

(ix) Provide improved access to resources for national and regional efforts to formulate and implement public awareness and education campaigns designed to gain local recognition of the need to control wastes at the source, the value of reuse and recycling and of appropriate packaging, and of the possibilities for converting wastes to resources in culturally appropriate ways.

(x) Ensure that the Basel Convention experts group developing guidelines for monitoring the effects of the management of hazardous wastes on human health and the environment takes into account the concerns of small island developing States.

IV. COASTAL AND MARINE RESOURCES

Basis for action

23. Sustainable development in small island developing States depends largely on coastal and marine resources. Their small land area means that these States are effectively coastal entities. Population and economic development - both subsistence and cash - are concentrated in the coastal zone. The establishment of the 200-mile exclusive economic zone has vastly extended the fisheries and other marine resources available to small island developing States. Their high dependence on coastal and marine resources emphasizes the need for appropriate and effective management.

24. The development and management of programmes designed to achieve ecologically and economically sustainable utilization of coastal and marine resources are major challenges for small island developing States. The lack of an integrated approach to coastal and marine area management has limited the effectiveness of past and present management measures. This is increasingly resulting in coastal habitats being degraded through pollution, natural resources being over-exploited and growing conflicts between competing resource uses. Development patterns have also had an adverse impact on traditional management systems. In many cases these impacts have been exacerbated by the effects of natural hazards and extreme events, such as hurricanes, cyclones or typhoons, storm surges and abnormally high tides.

A. National action, policies and measures

(i) Establish and/or strengthen, where appropriate, institutional, administrative and legislative arrangements for the development of integrated coastal zone management plans and strategies for coastal watersheds and exclusive economic zones and their implementation, including integration within national development plans.

(ii) Design comprehensive monitoring programmes for coastal and marine resources, including wetlands, to determine shoreline and ecosystem stability, and document and apply traditional knowledge and management practices which are ecologically sound and include the participation of local communities, as a basis for integrated coastal zone planning and decision-making.

(iii) Develop and/or strengthen national capabilities for the sustainable harvesting and processing of fishery resources and provide training and awareness programmes for the managers (government and local communities) of coastal and marine resources.

(iv) Ratify and/or adhere to regional and international conventions concerning protection of coastal and marine resources and combat unsustainable fishing and related practices.

B. Regional action

(i) Develop and/or strengthen the capacity of regional organizations to undertake activities in coastal and marine areas, including to research commercial and non-commercial fisheries with a view to sustainable harvesting and utilization, and surveys of reef, estuary and lagoon resources; and monitor and promote innovative ways to develop in a sustainable manner territorial waters and exclusive economic zones, including support for aquaculture, mariculture, coral reef and mangrove programmes.

(ii) Develop methodology for integrated coastal zone management appropriate to small island developing States, particularly very small, low elevation and coral islands.

(iii) Develop and/or strengthen regional clearing-houses for coastal and marine environmental information to facilitate the collection, synthesis and sharing of relevant information, knowledge and experience among small island developing States in a structured and systematic way.

(iv) Develop programmes to enhance negotiating and related skills for the management and exploitation of coastal and marine resources, including the negotiation of fisheries agreements.

(v) Develop and/or strengthen regional capabilities for the effective surveillance and monitoring of activities in the exclusive economic zones of small island developing States.

(vi) Harmonize policies and strategies for coordination of the sustainable management and utilization of coastal and marine resources.

C. International action

(i) Develop mechanisms for the gathering and sharing of information and expertise, particularly interregionally between small island developing States, including techniques and facilities available under the Geographical Information System (GIS) for the assessment of coastal and marine resources, including the regional nodes of the UNEP Global Resource Information Database.

(ii) Cooperate in facilitating mutually advantageous fishing agreements between small island developing States and foreign fishing groups; take account of the concerns and characteristics of these States within the United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks; and encourage and facilitate the full participation of small island developing States in the Conference and in the implementation of the Conference outcomes.

(iii) Assist with the establishment and/or strengthening, where necessary, of new institutional and administrative arrangements for the development of integrated coastal zone management plans and their implementation.

(iv) Support small island developing States in establishing national and regional capabilities for effective surveillance and monitoring of activities within their exclusive economic zones, in the setting up of regional and other joint-venture fishing enterprises, in developing inventories of marine resources and regional approaches to the sustainable management of their exclusive economic zones and in the strengthening of regional marine research centres.

[(v) Use the results of the World Coast Conference of November 1993 to assist small island developing States with the development of integrated coastal zone management plans and to improve international coordination in this field.]

V. FRESHWATER RESOURCES

Basis for action

25. Freshwater resources are vital for meeting basic needs and inadequate protection of the quality and supply of freshwater resources can set important limits to sustainable development. Many health hazards in developing countries are related to poor water quality. Because of their small size and particular geological, topographical and climatic conditions, many small island developing States face severe constraints in terms of both the quality and quantity of freshwater. This is particularly the case for low-lying coral-based islands where groundwater supplies are limited and they are protected only by a thin permeable soil. Even where rainfall is abundant, access to clean water has been restricted by lack of adequate storage facilities and effective delivery systems.

[26. Inadequate action to safeguard watershed areas poses a further long-term threat, while in urban areas rapid population growth, changes in economic strategies and a growing per capita use of freshwater are significant challenges. Certain industries, including tourism and canning operations, are profligate users of water. A common threat to the freshwater resources of small island developing States is the contamination of supply by human and livestock waste, industry-related pollution and, in some cases, pesticides and other agricultural chemicals. With climatic change comes an increased risk of salt-water intrusion into the groundwater table. Such incursion is made even more likely through low groundwater recharge in times of extended drought.]

A. National action, policies and measures

(i) Develop, maintain and protect watershed areas, irrigation systems, distribution networks and appropriate catchment systems and promote effective programmes for water conservation and prevention of water contamination through, inter alia, the development of integrated national water plans, the use of appropriate incentives and regulatory measures, community involvement in management and conservation, forest management and reforestation and investment strategies.

(ii) Develop and strengthen low-cost monitoring and assessment capabilities, linked to water resource databases, for relevant decision-making tools including forecasting models for water management, planning and utilization.

(iii) Strengthen procedures to monitor and respond to the impacts of natural and environmental hazards, in particular the impacts of climate change and climate variability, including drought and sealevel rise, on water resources.

(iv) Encourage the development and acquisition of appropriate technology and training for cost-effective sewage disposal, desalination and rainwater collection to provide sufficiently high quality potable freshwater, including opportunities for technology interchange between small island developing States.

(v) Strengthen national capacities to make decisions between competing demands over the allocation of limited water resources.

B. Regional action

(i) Develop and strengthen initiatives for regional cooperation in training and research to assist Governments in the development and implementation of integrated water resource plans, including conservation and rehabilitation of watersheds, protection of groundwater, fostering public awareness and water quality monitoring.

(ii) Provide technical assistance for the assessment and/or development and transfer of appropriate technology for water collection, distribution and protection, in particular, sewage disposal technology.

C. International action

(i) Improve access to environmentally sound and energy efficient technologies for the catchment, production, conservation and delivery of freshwater, including rainwater catchment, water treatment systems and desalination, and foster the exchange of information on water treatment methods.

(ii) Enhance the capacity of small island developing States to develop and implement integrated water resource plans, including water resource allocation and management, conservation and rehabilitation of watersheds, protection of groundwater, fostering public awareness and water quality monitoring.

(iii) Assist training and public awareness campaigns to build up an endogenous capacity relating to water management and conservation and appropriate rainwater catchment systems.

(iv) Support the establishment of methodologies aimed at assessing the adverse impact of climate change on freshwater resources and develop appropriate response and mitigation measures.

VI. LAND RESOURCES

Basis for action

27. The small size of most small island developing States, coupled with land tenure systems, soil types, relief and climatic variation, limit the area available for urban settlement, agriculture, mining, commercial forestry, tourism, and other infrastructure, and create intense competition between land-use options. Most aspects of environmental management in small island developing States are directly dependent on, or influenced by, the planning and utilization of land resources. This is intimately linked to coastal zone management and protection in small island developing States.

28. For human requirements to be met in a sustainable manner, competing demands for the use of land resources must be resolved, and more effective and efficient ways of using these natural resources developed and adopted. As populations grow in small island developing States, there is a need for resolution of competing demands, particularly where land is limited and where commercial development of comparatively large tracts of land can result in shifts in small-scale and subsistence agriculture to marginal lands.

29. The major long-term land management issue in small island developing States is degradation of the limited land area due to a variety of factors, including overuse because of high population pressure on a limited resource base; deforestation due to unsustainable commercial logging or permanent conversion to agricultural or grazing pursuits; and other episodic events, such as fire. Natural events such as catastrophic cyclones are also major contributors. Land degradation of this kind results in accelerated erosion and resultant decline in fertility and productivity, deterioration in water quality and siltation of rivers, lagoons and reefs. Deforestation is also linked to a decline in the continuity and quality of village water supply, depletion of genetic, wood and non-wood plant resources, and the fading away of traditional forest, lagoon and reef-based subsistence life systems.

30. The search for an improved quality of life, with its increased demands for cash income, has led to greater production of export cash crops, increasing areas of cultivation and more mechanized production systems. In the past, unsustainable agricultural practices in these areas have contributed to deforestation and loss of multiple-purpose trees from the rural landscape, and agrochemical pollution of soils, freshwater and coastal resources. There is, however, much that can be learned from traditional systems of food production and use of plants to promote sustainable agriculture and land management.

A. National action, policies and measures

(i) Develop and improve national databases and the dissemination of information to relevant groups, especially local communities and women, for land-use planning and management, including estimates of carrying capacity, economic and environmental value of land resources, together with appropriate decision-making tools, such as land/geographic information systems.

(ii) Prepare and/or review land-use plans in conjunction with agricultural, forestry, mining, tourism, traditional land-use practices and other land-use policies, with a view to formulating comprehensive land-use plans and zoning so as to protect land resources, ensure sustainable and productive land-use and guard against land degradation, pollution and exceeding island carrying capacity.

(iii) Encourage appropriate forms of land tenure, improved land administration and a greater appreciation of the integrated nature of land development in order to facilitate sustainable land use.

(iv) Formulate and enforce laws, regulations and economic pricing and incentives to encourage the sustainable and integrated use, management and conservation of land and its natural resources.

(v) Support appropriate afforestation and reforestation programmes, with appropriate emphasis on natural regeneration and participation of land owners, to ensure watershed and coastal protection and reduce land degradation.

(vi) Improve the availability, affordability and environmental quality of shelter in human settlements, in accordance with chapter 7 of Agenda 21.

(vii) Increase attention to national physical planning in both urban and rural environments, with a focus on training to strengthen physical planning offices, including the use of environmental impact assessments and other decision-making tools.

B. Regional action

(i) Provide appropriate training and other capacity-building opportunities for small island developing States, including systems for continuous surveillance of the rate and extent of land-use changes and monitoring of adverse environmental effects, to facilitate the implementation of national actions.

(ii) Collect, synthesize and share relevant information, knowledge and experience among small island developing States on sustainable land-use practices and policies in a structured and systematic way, including issues pertaining to environmental, agricultural, forestry, mining and other land-based sectors, market intelligence information, and assessment of potential interested overseas investors.

C. International action

(i) Support the improved availability of shelter and the economic and environmental quality of human settlements for small island developing States in accordance with chapter 7 of Agenda 21.

(ii) Facilitate the development and improvement of national databases and the dissemination of information to relevant groups, especially local communities and women, for land-use planning and management including estimates of carrying capacity, economic and environmental value of land resources, together with appropriate decision-making tools such as land/geographic information systems.

(iii) Facilitate more effective international and interregional cooperation, coordination and collaboration in the fields of agriculture, forestry and other land use, through international and interregional networks and training programmes.

VII. ENERGY RESOURCES

Basis for action

31. Small island developing States are currently heavily dependent on imported petroleum products, largely for transport and electricity generation, energy often accounting for more than 12 per cent of imports. They are also heavily dependent on indigenous biomass fuels for cooking and crop drying.

32. The small island developing States will continue to be heavily dependent on petroleum fuels and biomass in both the short and the medium term. However, the

current uses of these fuels tend to be highly inefficient. Increased efficiency through appropriate technology and national energy policies and management measures will reap both financial and environmental benefits for small island developing States.

33. Renewable energy resource endowments of small island developing States vary greatly. All have substantial solar resources, which have still not been developed to their full potential. Wind potential is highly variable with location, both within and between countries. Hydroelectric power is a possibility only for some islands. Biomass endowment is common but unequal. Studies of the potential for geothermal, ocean thermal energy conversion and wave energy are continuing.

34. Several constraints to large-scale commercial use of renewable energy resources remain. These include technology development, investment costs, available indigenous skills and management capabilities. Small-scale application for rural electrification has been sporadic. The use of renewable energy resources as substantial commercial fuels by small island developing States is dependent on the development and commercial production of appropriate technologies.

A. National action, policies and measures

(i) Implement appropriate public education and awareness programmes, including consumer incentives to promote energy conservation.

(ii) Promote the efficient use of energy and the development of environmentally sound energy resources and energy efficient technologies, paying special attention to appropriate incentive structures [and appropriate economic instruments] and the increasing economic possibilities of renewable energy resources.

(iii) Establish and/or strengthen, where appropriate, research capabilities in the development and promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including wind, solar, geothermal, hydroelectric, ocean thermal energy conversion, wave and biomass.

(iv) Strengthen research capabilities and develop technologies to encourage the efficient utilization of non-renewable sources of energy.

B. Regional action

(i) Establish or strengthen research and policy capabilities in the development of new and renewable sources of energy, including wind, solar, geothermal, hydroelectric, wave and biomass.

(ii) Assist, where appropriate, in the formulation of energy policies, standards and guidelines for the energy sector applicable to small island developing States, and enhance national capacity effectively to plan, manage and monitor their energy sectors.

(iii) Gather and disseminate information, and promote regional cooperation and technical exchanges between small island developing States on energy-sector issues, including new and renewable sources of energy.

C. International action

(i) Support the research, development and utilization of renewable sources of energy and related technologies and improve the efficiency of existing technologies and end-use equipment based on conventional energy sources.

(ii) Formulate and ratify international agreements on energy-sector issues in relation to sustainable development in such areas as carbon emissions and the transportation of petroleum[, for example, the use of double-hulled tankers].

[(iii) Develop and agree to effective mechanisms for the transfer of energy technology and establish databases to disseminate information on experience in the use of new and renewable sources of energy as well as on the efficient use of non-renewable energy sources.]

[(iv) Ensure that international institutions and agencies, including public international financial institutions, incorporate environmental efficiency and conservation principles into energy-sector-related training and technical assistance and provide concessionary financing facilities for energy-sector reforms.]

VIII. TOURISM RESOURCES

Basis for action

35. Tourism has contributed much to the development of small island developing States and, as one of only a few development options for small island developing States, will continue to be very important for their future growth. It could also stimulate the development of other sectors. However, if not properly planned and managed, it could significantly degrade the environment on which it is so dependent. The fragility and interdependence of coastal zones and the unspoilt areas on which eco-tourism depends call for careful management. The special tourist attraction of small island developing States is the distinctiveness of their cultures. The diversity and fragility of their environments are reflected in the diversity and fragility of their cultures. The protection of the former is an important condition for the protection of the latter.

36. Capital investment in tourism, particularly for the necessary infrastructure, is costly. There is usually also great competition for land resources between tourism, agriculture and other land uses. Large increases in tourism and overdevelopment of tourism in particular areas or in whole islands could be environmentally and culturally disruptive and detrimental to other valuable sectors, such as agriculture. It is imperative, therefore, that the development of tourism be carefully planned, particularly in relation to compatible land uses, water management, coastal zone management and the development of parks. Tourism, like all forms of development in the coastal zone, needs to be carefully integrated within the existing cultural and environmental constraints and opportunities present within small island developing States. Eco-tourism, linking areas of high ecological value to low-impact tourism, may present important and environmentally sustainable opportunities for tourism development in small island developing States.

A. National action, policies and measures

(i) Ensure that tourism development and environmental management are mutually supportive.

(ii) Adopt integrated planning and policies to ensure sustainable tourism development, with particular attention to land-use planning and coastal zone management, requiring environmental impact assessments for all tourism projects; continuous monitoring of the environmental impact of all tourism activities; and the development of guidelines and standards for design and construction taking into account energy consumption, the disposal of wastes and land degradation, the proper management and protection of eco-tourism attractions, and the carrying capacity of areas for tourism.

(iii) Identify and develop facilities to meet specific niche markets, particularly in eco-tourism, nature and cultural tourism, and involve local populations in the management of natural protected areas set aside for eco-tourism.

(iv) Adopt measures to protect the cultural integrity of small island developing States.

B. Regional action

(i) Ensure that tourism and the environment are mutually supportive in cooperation schemes at the regional level, including, where appropriate, harmonization of standards and regulations.

(ii) Encourage the assessment and development of potential complementarities among small island developing States, including the development of packaged options covering several islands and encouraging joint marketing and training programmes.

(iii) Establish or strengthen regional mechanisms for the exchange of information in the development of a safe and sustainable tourism sector, using, as appropriate, the capacities of regional tourism organizations.

C. International action

(i) Promote recognition of the value of tourism in small island developing States to the international community as well as the fragility of the resources on which tourism in small island developing States depends and of the need therefore for international support to encourage its sustainable development.

(ii) Facilitate efforts at the national and regional levels to assess the overall impact of the economic, social and ecological aspects of tourism, to plan sustainable tourism and to develop eco- and cultural tourism.

IX. BIODIVERSITY RESOURCES

Basis for action

37. Small island developing States are renowned for their species diversity and endemism. However, because of the small size, isolation and fragility of island ecosystems, their biological diversity is among the most threatened in the world. Deforestation, coral reef deterioration and the introduction of certain non-indigenous species are the most significant causes of loss of biodiversity in small island developing States.

38. In the past, there has been a strong emphasis on the collection of more information. In small island developing States where limited and biologically precious resources are being threatened, while lack of sufficient information is often cited as a rationale for inaction, there is often enough information to identify areas requiring in situ conservation. Although more information will be important to develop appropriate management plans, information collection should no longer be a prior condition for in situ conservation projects.

39. The nature of traditional, often communal land and marine resource ownership in many island countries requires community support for the conservation effort. Without this local support and commitment and the opportunity to integrate sustainable income generation into the conservation effort, even the most highly studied and well planned conservation area will not be sustainable.

40. Some of the most precious biological resources for islanders, environmentally, economically and culturally, are marine and coastal rather than terrestrial. This requires a conservation focus that takes into account customary land and reef tenure systems and practices, which may differ from that usual in the larger developed countries. Other considerations include the adequacy of basic institutional support for conservation efforts (staff, vehicles etc.) and access to financial resources to help start innovative projects.

41. A number of international and regional conventions exist concerning the conservation and sustainable utilization of biological resources and these are expected to provide a sound legal framework of potential benefit to the sustainable development of small island developing States.

A. National action, policies and measures

(i) Formulate and implement integrated strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of terrestrial and marine biodiversity, in particular, endemic species, including protection from the introduction of certain non-indigenous species and identification of sites of high biological significance for the conservation of biological diversity and/or for eco-tourism and other sustainable development opportunities, such as sustainable agriculture, training and research.

(ii) Ratify and implement the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora and other relevant international and regional conventions.

(iii) Promote community support for the conservation of biological diversity and the designation of protected areas through concentration on educational strategies that increase awareness of the significance of biodiversity conservation, particularly the fundamental importance of a diverse biological resource base to resource-owning communities.

(iv) Generate and maintain buffer stocks or gene banks of biogenetic resources for reintroduction into the environment, especially in the case of post-disaster restoration and rehabilitation.

(v) Develop or continue studies and research on biological resources, their management and their intrinsic socio-economic and cultural value, including biotechnology.

(vi) Conduct detailed inventories of existing flora, fauna and ecosystems to provide basic data needed for the preservation of biodiversity.

B. Regional action

(i) Encourage countries to concentrate on known, existing sites of biological significance and to build up community support for the protection of those areas, including protection from the introduction of non-indigenous species.

(ii) Promote regional studies of the socio-economic and cultural value of biological resources, including genetic engineering, intellectual property rights, and access to biotechnology, with the participation of existing or strengthened scientific institutions, relevant international agencies and non-governmental organizations.

(iii) Promote the establishment of regional gene-bank centres for research, seeking the development and introduction of more resistant and productive varieties of species, and provide the appropriate legal and technical procedures for the use of those biological resources.

(iv) Coordinate information exchange, training and technical assistance in support of national efforts to establish and manage conservation areas and for species conservation, including the identification and use of traditional knowledge and techniques for resource management which assist the conservation of biological resources and diversity.

(v) Promote and/or strengthen already existing regional scientific institutions which can operate as reference centres for problems related to the conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity.

(vi) Strengthen the capacity of regional organizations to provide technical support and coordination in the development of inventories of flora, fauna and ecosystems and where feasible to establish regional databases and gene banks.

C. International action

(i) Provide improved access to financial and technical resources for the conservation of biological diversity, including funds for basic institutional and logistic support for the conservation and management of biological diversity, with priority to be accorded to terrestrial as well as coastal and marine biodiversity, such as coral reef ecosystems.

(ii) Improve access to environmentally sound biotechnology, including know-how and delivery mechanisms.

(iii) Ensure that the activities of relevant international organizations, United Nations bodies and programmes and relevant non-governmental organizations are closely coordinated with and supportive of identified regional small island developing States centres or ongoing programmes in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and biotechnology.

(iv) Make greater use of import restrictions under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora on products from endangered species of small island developing States.

(v) Support national and regional actions for developing inventories of flora, fauna and ecosystems, including training and technical assistance.

(vi) Support strategies to protect small island developing States from the introduction of non-indigenous species.

X. NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE CAPACITY

Basis for action

42. To address the environmental resource management priorities essential to the sustainable development of small island developing States, national institutional and administrative arrangements are increasingly embracing the interrelated nature of activities in their limited land area. The integration of environmental considerations into the national decision-making processes is considered to be the single most important step to be taken by small island developing States to ensure that these problems are addressed and that the principles of sustainability guide all future development.

43. Economic imperatives must be evaluated from the perspective of socio-environmental considerations if the natural resource base is to be preserved for the benefit of present and future generations and social and cultural values safeguarded. Economic development must become sustainable development by incorporating environmental and resource management. This requires the adoption of interdisciplinary approaches to both planning and decision-making and, to the extent possible, encouragement of public participation in the process.

44. Formal integration of economic and environmental considerations will necessitate a series of institutional adjustments within government administrations, accompanied by across-the-board strengthening of environmental administrative capacity. This must happen at all levels of government, including at the local level. Many forms of institutional adjustment are conceivable and would be tailored to specific country needs. It is recognized that this process would benefit from public participation.

45. Many countries have prepared environmental strategies and plans which integrate environment and development and these are seen as the first step in a process leading to the wide application of sustainable development principles. For those plans to promote sustainable development, however, they must be utilized for national decision-making, including at all appropriate levels of

government, so that environment and development policy can be carefully integrated.

A. National action, policies and measures

(i) Strengthen institutional arrangements and administrative capacity, including cross-sectoral/inter-ministerial committees and task forces, to integrate environment and economic policy in national planning and across sectors and ensure capacity to implement Agenda 21 and the decisions of the Conference.

(ii) Develop implementation strategies and schedules, including financing, for both regional and national activities.

(iii) Establish or strengthen environmental agencies with adequate financial and staff resources.

(iv) Increase the awareness and involvement of non-governmental organizations, local communities and other major groups in public education, national planning and implementation of sustainable development programmes.

(v) Improve public education to familiarize local, provincial/State and national bodies with environmental laws already in existence, to facilitate discussion of the value of environmental legislation and standards to local communities and to open wider discussion on more culturally appropriate penalties for contravention of laws and regulations.

(vi) Develop appropriate national, provincial/State and local environmental regulations which reflect the needs and incorporate the principles of sustainability, create appropriate environmental standards and procedures, and ensure their integration into national planning instruments and development projects at an early stage in the design process, including specific legislation for appropriate environmental impact assessment for both public and private sector development.

(vii) Give sustainable development task forces or their equivalent official authority and validity to permit their continued meeting as interdisciplinary and communally representative advisory bodies.

(viii) Provide adequate resources for the enforcement of environmental regulations.

(ix) Enact domestic legislation required for the implementation of the wide range of international environmental conventions and agreements directly relevant to small island developing States.

(x) Establish national information nodes on the sustainable development of small island developing States, to encourage, at the international level, the development of a sustainable development information network for small islands to facilitate the exchange of experience among small island developing States.

B. Regional action

(i) Assist, where appropriate, in the preparation and implementation of national environmental strategies and plans.

(ii) Provide appropriate research, training and information dissemination to facilitate the mainstreaming of environment in development planning and decision-making and coordination between sectors.

C. International action

(i) Improve access to financial and technical assistance to strengthen national institutions and administrative and operational capacity.

(ii) Support the development of a sustainable development information network for small islands to facilitate the exchange of experience among small island developing States.

(iii) Assist in providing training and capacity-building services to facilitate ratification and implementation of appropriate international instruments.

XI. REGIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION

Basis for action

46. The limited human resources and small size of small island developing States make it especially important to pool those resources through regional cooperation and institutions. It is essential that effective support for regional projects be coordinated through regional bodies. This is desirable to avoid duplication and achieve complementarity of assistance.

47. Regional organizations, both United Nations and non-United Nations, can play a key role in facilitating efficient and effective assistance to small island developing States. Regional organizations are also useful vehicles, in many instances, for the implementation of regional programmes. The programming, administrative and implementation capacities of those bodies [can further be improved with] the support of member States and [other] donors.

48. Currently, multilateral and bilateral donors undertake their own regional programming exercises through regular dialogue with small island developing States and relevant bodies. Non-governmental organizations also deliver services at the national and regional level in support of regional programmes.

A. National action, policies and measures

(i) Support regional organizations through membership and budgetary contributions.

(ii) Encourage improved coordination and collaboration among regional bodies and between the international community and regional programmes.

B. Regional action

(i) Improve coordination among regional bodies for the sustainable development of small island developing States as outlined in Agenda 21.

(ii) Formulate regional programmes and strategies jointly between regional bodies and national authorities consistent with Agenda 21.

(iii) Develop a technical assistance programme for small island developing States to promote inter- and intraregional cooperation on sustainable development in small island developing States.

(iv) Establish, where appropriate, and support regional sustainable development centres to facilitate the sustainable development of small island developing States in the areas of research, training, the development of endogenous technology, transfer of technology and the provision of legal and technical advice, taking into account the work of existing relevant institutions, including universities.

(v) Draft model environmental provisions as a guide for countries, leaving to each small island developing State the incorporation of country-specific provisions to reflect the variety and diversity of national and customary laws and procedures.

(vi) Prepare environmental law training manuals for both lawyers and others working in the environmental field.

[(vii) Encourage where appropriate the harmonization of environmental legislation and policies between small island developing States.]

(viii) Conduct regional and in-country workshops on environmental law subjects, including environmental conventions and treaties, environmental impact assessment, heritage, pollution, civil enforcement, prosecution and environmental mediation.

(ix) Assess and inform small island developing States about the content, notification processes, financial and legal implications of relevant international environmental instruments and conventions in order to encourage small island developing States to accede to and implement them.

C. International action

(i) Support environmental law offices within regional and subregional organizations to implement regional approaches, including the development of relevant expertise.

(ii) Improve access to financial and technical resources for the development and/or strengthening of regional bodies in order to respond to the sustainable development needs of small island developing States.

(iii) Improve coordination with relevant regional/subregional bodies to implement Agenda 21 and the decisions of the Conference.

(iv) Strengthen regional bodies in order to improve their capacity to respond to the sustainable development needs of small island developing States.

XII. TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Basis for action

49. Transport and communications are the lifelines linking small island developing States with the outside world, with each other and within their own countries, and are an important means of achieving sustainable development. Distance and isolation have resulted in relatively high transport costs, including high transport insurance costs, for many small island developing States. The quality and frequency of international shipping and air services are largely beyond the control of island States. Domestic markets are too small to provide economies of scale and the remoteness of many rural and outer-island communities constrains options and increases costs. While national airlines are necessary to serve the local market, especially in archipelagic States, they tend to fragment the regional market. The constraining influence of these factors on the sustainable development of island countries cannot be underestimated.

50. The environmental [, including quarantine,] uses associated with transport and communications development also need to be properly addressed. Such issues include land transport, which has [been found to be one of the greatest degraders of the urban environment, both at national and regional levels, and which appears to have lagged behind improvements and major changes in transport services].

51. A major challenge is to devise innovative approaches to resolving transport and communications problems, for example, the development of low-cost high-tech methods for the moving of cargo, and to improving community access to telephone, radio and related services. A further challenge is to improve the management and maintenance of existing transport and communications infrastructure. In building new infrastructure, particular consideration needs to be given to maintenance and recurrent cost issues.

A. National action, policies and measures

(i) Continue efforts to strengthen transport services and facilities at both the national and local levels, with particular attention to environmental protection, safety, and innovative low-cost transport solutions.

(ii) Upgrade domestic communication facilities, including radio and telephone coverage to remote rural communities, and continue efforts to improve international telecommunications links.

(iii) Address quarantine problems and requirements stemming from changing transport situations and longer-term climatic changes.

B. Regional action

(i) Foster increased cooperation in civil aviation, shipping and telecommunications, including possibilities for consolidation of national airline services.

(ii) Develop effective quarantine services, including through upgrading existing plant protection and related programmes.

(iii) Encourage the application of appropriate communications technologies to promote sustainable development in areas such as education, health, eco-tourism and other areas critical to sustainable development, including the promotion of greater public awareness.

C. International action

(i) Develop innovative energy-efficient transport solutions to move people and cargo to and from island ports without the need to establish high-cost infrastructure.

(ii) Cooperate with national and regional bodies in designing and enforcing effective quarantine systems.

(iii) Improve access to financial and technical resources in support of regional organizations which are coordinating and advising small island developing States in the fields of transport and communications.

(iv) Promote research and development in telecommunications and transportation relevant to the sustainable development of small island developing States.

[(v) Promote arrangements and measures to lower the international telecommunications costs to small island developing States.]

XIII. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Basis for action

52. Science and technology are crucial for the achievement of sustainable development. There would be considerable benefit if all countries incorporated environmentally friendly technologies to a greater extent. However, in small island developing States science and technological capacity remains underdeveloped both in terms of research and development institutions and of the availability of scientists to serve such institutions on a sustained basis. At the same time, some island peoples survive on traditional knowledge and its application. These are being threatened in small island developing States increasingly driven to adopt technologies and scientific understanding. A better integration of modern and traditional knowledge could also prove beneficial.

53. Many new environmentally sound technologies relevant to economic activities in small island developing States are becoming available. Information concerning these and the ability to assess them are crucial for technological change to achieve sustainable development. Science and technological capacity require trained people to serve in production enterprises, to engage in training and to help in the assessment and adaptation of imported technologies.

54. Small island developing States will benefit from increased access to imported technologies to facilitate their sustainable development. However, improved capacity to tap local knowledge and to develop environmentally sound endogenous technologies is also important in a number of areas, including

agriculture, agricultural processing, construction, communications and marine sciences, as an important step towards sustainable development.

55. Trained people are needed in a wider range of fields to ensure adequate training and capacity for environmental impact and technology assessment. Limited national capacities mean that, in a number of these areas, emphasis would have to be given to regional and subregional approaches and joint ventures with the international community. Encouragement of private sector involvement could also be very important because of limited governmental capacity to undertake both training and research and development.

A. National action, policies and measures

(i) Ensure that science and technology policy is closely linked to national environmental strategies and sustainable development plans and is responsive to local and sectoral sustainable development needs, emphasizing self-sufficiency and the minimization of import dependency.

(ii) Give greater emphasis to research and training for science and economic development generally as well as for environmental and technology assessment; refine analytical tools for natural resource accounting; and encourage the development and use of information and communications technology to overcome size and isolation problems.

(iii) Promote research and development in areas where endogenous technologies and traditional practices have great relevance, including agriculture, agricultural processing, waste-recycling, ethnobiology and biotechnology, construction and renewable energy, ensuring that mechanisms are in place for the appropriate protection of intellectual property rights in accordance with relevant international conventions.

(iv) Encourage the use of endogenous environmentally sound technologies through regulations, standards and economic incentives.

(v) Develop or ensure access to databases on environmentally sound technologies of local relevance and collect consistent time-series data for monitoring the performance of sustainable development.

(vi) Promote and strengthen the role of women in science and technology disciplines.

B. Regional action

(i) Develop or strengthen efforts to assist small island developing States to assess technology, develop databases on environmentally sound technologies, conduct relevant research and development and training, and develop appropriate information systems to share experience within and between small island developing States, through relevant regional organizations and institutions.

(ii) Encourage appropriate regional standards and the standardization of analytical methods as well as scientific inter-calibration exercises in order to facilitate the exchange of data.

(iii) Develop and strengthen regional ocean science networks with particular reference to data collection and dissemination of information relevant to small island developing States.

C. International action

(i) Facilitate access to and the development of environmentally sound technologies relevant to small island developing States, including coastal zone management and marine and ocean sciences, using inter alia, joint ventures and financial mechanisms.

(ii) Strengthen coordination and networking of the various national centres, regional organizations and institutions and international organizations working in areas of science and technology to facilitate information flows, database creation and access, and greater collaboration and technical cooperation in programmes.

[(iii) Encourage development within the international community, including the United Nations system, particularly through relevant activities of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the Commission on Sustainable Development, of appropriate programmes in support of regional and national efforts to build the science and technology capacities of small island developing States, including those that increase the output and range of their limited human resources.]

(iv) Take account of the needs of small island developing States in the action plan for training in integrated coastal zone management being developed cooperatively by the United Nations Development Programme and the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the United Nations Secretariat.

(v) Facilitate the full involvement of scientists and other experts from small island developing States in marine scientific research.

(vi) Promote the free flow of, and access to, data and information resulting from marine scientific research, particularly as it relates to monitoring in small island developing States.

(vii) Accelerate development of the coastal module of the Global Observing System, in view of its particular importance to small island developing States.

XIV. HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Basis for action

56. Human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development and thus significant attention must be given to projects that will enhance the quality of human life in small island developing States. Projects should be undertaken not only with a view to the contribution that individuals, groups, communities and nations can make towards sustainable development but, more importantly, how those projects will ultimately affect the well-being of those living in small island developing States.

57. The smallness and vulnerability of small island developing States necessitates special attention to population issues, education and training, and health for effective human resource development. Poor health services and nutrition and housing, low levels of female participation in development, [inadequate family planning services/insufficient responsible planning of family size] and poor social services demonstrate the need for attention to human resource development issues. High population densities and growth, as well as depopulation in some areas, are constraints to achieving sustainable development in many small island developing States. Increasing attention must be given to the concept of island carrying capacity and environmental health, especially for fragile and highly populated environments in urban areas, coastal zones and hillsides.

58. The strengthening of national educational and training mechanisms is a matter of high priority. This is essential to facilitate the flow of information on sustainable development issues, to enhance public awareness of the environment and to encourage participation in the implementation of effective solutions. A key requirement is to promote access to and improve the quality of basic education.

59. Environmental education and science training, particularly on issues specific to small island developing States, are essential to developing environmental awareness. Training in environmental management and sustainable development are needed at all levels of the education system. For professional training, multidisciplinary approaches are needed. There is a demand for knowledge on the environment to meet both educational and professional needs. Areas in which more training is greatly needed are science and technology generally, technology assessment, environmental impact assessment, environmental management and sustainable development, environmental chemistry, environmental engineering, physical planning and the development of geographic information systems, and information and communications technology.

60. Chapter 6 of Agenda 21 recognizes the close dependency of human health on a healthy environment and provides a list of priority actions. Although some small island developing States have implemented relevant activities, the overall improvement in the health of their populations continues to decelerate. Furthermore, the health conditions of vulnerable groups, such as poor women and children, have actually deteriorated in many cases.

A. National action, policies and measures

(i) Infuse sustainable development ideas into education curricula at all levels and promote participation by all groups, emphasizing the link between environment and social and economic issues, and continue to improve access to scientific, mathematics and technical training.

(ii) Incorporate population issues into the mainstream of decision-making and planning mechanisms of government, including the development of comprehensive [population/demographic] policies consistent with sustainable development objectives [while respecting and promoting the dignity and the fundamental rights of the human person and of the family].

(iii) Improve urban/rural settlements by giving priority to the improvement of basic services such as potable water, sewage disposal, shelter, education, family planning and health as well as the elimination of poverty; ensuring that development projects have explicit environment and health objectives; ensuring adequate resources for public health and preventative care activities; and considering urban development options including decentralization.

(iv) Direct efforts to improve urban/rural settlements through the promotion of projects aimed at the elimination of poverty which give priority to the improvement of basic services such as shelter and comprehensive public health, including, inter alia, potable water, sewage disposal, maternal and child health care, the responsible planning of family size and other specific measures aimed at health promotion and disease prevention.

(v) Encourage the use of distance training to meet expanding educational demand and the large demand for knowledge and training on the environment.

(vi) Promote and strengthen the role of major groups, including non-governmental organizations and, in particular, women, in the creation and implementation of sustainable development initiatives.

(vii) Seek to improve the quality of education, training and human resource development by upgrading basic education and technical/vocational skills training and by making improvements where necessary to national management and planning capacities and labour market linkages.

(viii) Encourage the use of traditional knowledge and skills in environment, resource management and health, and the use of community groups to assist in promoting environmental awareness.

B. Regional action

(i) Support national efforts to develop appropriate curricula for sustainable development at all levels, including the introduction, development of and/or access to interdisciplinary training in environmental sciences at a tertiary level, and improve coordination of training activities on sustainable development and environmental issues that are being conducted throughout small island developing States by different organizations, including non-governmental organizations.

(ii) Assess the impacts of urbanization on the physical and human environments and provide health evaluation and impact assessment capability for small island developing States.

(iii) Enhance regional cooperation in educational and human resource development and improve the responsiveness of education centres to regional requirements.

C. International action

(i) Support efforts to develop curricula for sustainable development, in particular tertiary level courses on environmental management and sustainable development, encouraging multidisciplinary approaches.

(ii) Provide appropriate resources to meet the particular population concerns of small island developing States, including implementation of any relevant outcomes of the International Conference on Population and Development.

(iii) Improve coordination and targeting of education and human resource development programmes provided by the development partners of small island developing States.

(iv) Support national and regional efforts to improve education and human resource development in small island developing States.

(v) Encourage and support technical cooperation among small island developing States and other developing countries as a means of enhancing sustainable development.

(vi) Support efforts to promote and strengthen the role of small island developing States in the creation and implementation of sustainable development initiatives.

(vii) Support basic regional and national formal and informal health training institutions and research on technology and health problems of small island developing States, paying more attention to malaria, nutrition, drugs, acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) and maternal and infant health care, and support national and regional efforts to improve urban/rural settlements.

(viii) Support environmental education programmes specific to island environments and adapted to all levels, including primary and secondary schools, with curricula and materials tailored to the interests and needs of end-users.

[(ix) Continue to improve access to scientific, mathematical and technical training.]

(x) Support programmes aimed at increasing the involvement of community-based organizations in conservation and natural resource management programmes, including planning and decision-making.

(xi) Provide assistance for the training of policy-makers in the area of natural resources management, including policy-related courses for resolution of competing demands, multiple use of resources and other policy-related environmental issues.

(xii) Support small island developing States in their efforts to improve urban/rural settlements through the promotion of projects aimed at human development and the elimination of poverty, particularly urban development options including decentralization, and by ensuring that such projects have adequate resources.

[XV. IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND REVIEW

61. Effective implementation, monitoring and review of the present programme of action is essential for the sustainable development of small island developing States. The programme of action is an opportunity for the international community to demonstrate its commitment to the means of implementation agreed upon under Agenda 21. In line with Principle 6 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, the United Nations system and the international

community shall give special priority to the needs of small island developing States since they are among the most environmentally vulnerable. This will require, in particular, adequate resources for implementation and actions at the national, regional and international levels.

[European Community: In the second sentence of paragraph 61, delete the words "the means of implementation agreed upon under".]

[United States: Replace the third sentence of paragraph 61 with the following text:

In line with Principle 6 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, the special situation and needs of developing countries, particularly the least developed and those most environmentally vulnerable, shall be given special priority.]

[European Community: Suggested that the reference in the above United States text to Principle 6 be replaced with a reference to paragraph 17.124 of Agenda 21.]

A. National implementation

62. Small island developing States have begun to implement Agenda 21. In many cases, national strategies have been or are being developed as a basis for action. Further progress is required to ensure that environmental considerations are given appropriate significance at central levels of decision-making and that there is full integration of environmental and developmental considerations at both micro and macro levels. Considerable emphasis has been placed on building endogenous capacity throughout the framework programme of action, which will require considerable effort to implement.

63. New participatory approaches to policy-making and implementation of sustainable development programmes will be necessary at all levels. There is a special role for groups which include women, youth, senior, indigenous and local communities as well as the private sector, labour and non-governmental organizations, as articulated in chapter 27 of Agenda 21.

[Australia: New paragraph to follow paragraph 63:

Small island developing States should provide information on national action taken to implement the Programme of Action.]

[European Community: New paragraphs to follow paragraph 63:

1. Finance

The implementation of the programme of action will require a reprioritization of the commitment of local resources to reflect the increased significance attached to sustainable development considerations in national development planning, particularly with respect to local institutional development.

The cost implications of the national environmental strategies referred to above must be taken into account.

Wherever feasible, the generation of additional resources to further support local capacity-building should be sought through the appropriate economic pricing of public goods and services.

2. Trade

There should be an emphasis on developing export commodities for which small island developing States have or could develop a comparative advantage in world markets, using methods of production which are environmentally and socio-economically sustainable. The scope for diversifying exports should be explored as a priority.

3. Technology transfer

Support local institutions in public, private and non-governmental organization sectors which facilitate the enhancement of public awareness and knowledge of environmentally sound and sustainable technologies, including both new and indigenous technologies, and encourage maximum public participation in the adaptation and adoption of those technologies in socio-economically acceptable ways.

4. Legislation

A review of existing legislation is necessary with particular regard to its effectiveness in supporting environmentally sustainable development and revisions should be undertaken as appropriate and backed up with more effective enforcement procedures. At the regional level, harmonization of legislation should be explored.

5. Institutional development

Units within planning, finance and other relevant ministries should be strengthened at appropriately senior levels to ensure that environmental and sustainable development planning is taken fully into account in national development planning and in planning in key sectors.]

B. Regional implementation

64. As has been highlighted within the programme of action, pooling the limited human resources of small island developing States through regional cooperation and institutions is a necessary part of their progress towards sustainable development. Regional action based on priorities, identified in the national strategies and plans of many small island developing States, requires better coordination of effort, stronger regional organizations and improved access to financial and technical resources.

[United States: New paragraph to follow paragraph 64:

Renewed emphasis should be given to more effective implementation of the UNEP Regional Seas Programme, including coordination and interchange between regions and among islands within regions.]

[Australia: New paragraphs to follow paragraph 64:

Each of the relevant regional commissions of the United Nations should help facilitate the implementation of the Conference outcomes at the regional level. This would involve:

- acting as a point of liaison between the non-United Nations regional organizations, the specialized agencies and the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the United Nations Secretariat;
- coordinating activities of the United Nations agencies at the regional level.

Drawing on information provided by small island developing States and appropriate organizations, consolidated reports analysing activity in relation to regional implementation should be presented to each session of the Commission on Sustainable Development within the period agreed for the implementation of the programme of action. These reports would include:

- activities of United Nations agencies at the regional level;
- activities of other non-United Nations regional organizations and non-governmental organizations;
- multilateral, regional and bilateral activities;
- national level activities;
- means by which coordination of United Nations regional activities has taken place at the inter-agency level, together with suggestions for improvement.

Within each region a mechanism should be devised, where appropriate, to coordinate implementation of a programme of action. This would include:

- donors, recipients, relevant United Nations agencies, non-United Nations regional organizations and regional banks;
- appropriate arrangements for the participation of non-governmental organizations.]

[European Community: At the end of Australia's proposal, add the following additional point:

- the importance of facilitating and expanding intraregional trade.]

C. International implementation

65. The present programme of action is part of the process of the implementation of Agenda 21, in particular, chapter 17.G.

1. Finance

66. The implementation of this programme of action will require the provision of financial resources [which are adequate, predictable, new and additional] in accordance with chapter 33 of Agenda 21. [This can be achieved by the international community through a number of mechanisms that would:]

[Canada: Delete "provision" and replace it with "mobilization".]

[European Community: After the words "new and additional" add the following:

... taking into account the pace of implementation of priorities identified in this programme of action on all levels, ...]

[New Zealand: Delete paragraph 66 and replace it with the following:

In accordance with chapter 33 of Agenda 21, financial resources which are adequate, predictable, new and additional are to be provided for environmentally sound development programmes and projects. In respect of activities in the draft programme of action which are consistent with Agenda 21, the international community can achieve progress through a number of mechanisms that would:]

[(a) Provide to small island developing States concessional financial and technical assistance at the levels, in real terms, necessary to support their sustainable development;]

[New Zealand: In subparagraph (a), after "technical" add "and grant".]

[Canada: In subparagraph 9 (a), delete "in real terms".]

[(b) Maximize the access of small island developing States to concessional financial and technical assistance, taking into account, inter alia, the specific development needs as outlined in the programme of action for the sustainable development of small island developing States and the problems facing those States;]

(c) Review, and revise as appropriate, the mechanisms, criteria and procedures used in allocating and providing concessional resources to small island developing States within multilateral and bilateral programmes to improve their effectiveness, taking into account the special needs, the sustainable development potential and the prospects for increased contributions of small island developing States to global sustainability through increased resources;

[(d) Ensure that financial and technical assistance conforms to the national and, where appropriate, regional priorities of small island developing States;]

[(e) Provide support to small island developing States to enable them to achieve economic growth and sustainability.]

[Canada: In subparagraph (e), replace "enable" with "assist".]

[United States: Replace subparagraphs (a), (b), (d) and (e) with:

The international community should seek to supplement national efforts for the implementation of Agenda 21 by making every effort to ensure the availability of appropriate levels of financial and technical assistance to support the sustainable development of small island developing States. Such assistance should take into account the specific needs of small island developing States as outlined in the programme of action and reflect the priorities of these States. The international community is requested to continue to ... (continue text of subparagraph (c)).]

[European Community: Add the following words at the end of subparagraph (e):

... in such a way as to maximize their endogenous potential and reduce their dependence.]

2. Trade

67. The economies of small island developing States are extremely dependent on international trade and very often on international trade in, and market access for, a single commodity. The need for a supportive international economic and trading climate conducive to sustained economic growth and development is therefore critical. Trade liberalization with a view to enhancing the access to markets for the exports of small island developing States is particularly important.

[New Zealand: Replace the first sentence of paragraph 67 with the following:

In order to achieve sustainable economic growth, small island developing States need to develop overseas markets for value-added exports of products in which they are internationally competitive. In addition, many small island developing States are dependent on the international commodity markets for a major proportion of their export receipts. Poor market access and reliance on a single commodity are problems faced by many small island developing States.]

68. The international community should also aim at finding ways and means of achieving a better functioning and enhancing the transparency of international commodity markets; of providing greater diversification of the commodity sector in small island developing States within a macroeconomic framework that takes into account a country's economic structure, resource endowments and market opportunities; and of providing better management of national resources that takes into consideration the necessity of sustainable development. In this connection, the fulfilment of measures designed under paragraph 2.16 of Agenda 21 are relevant to the sustainable development of small island developing States.

[New Zealand: At the end of the first sentence in paragraph 68 add the following:

... including the importance of mutually supportive trade and environment policies.]

69. In this context, a study should be undertaken on the effects of trade liberalization and globalization on the sustainable development of small island developing States and should include recommendations for ameliorating the negative impacts.

[Canada: Before the word "recommendations" add the word "appropriate".]

[Canada: Delete the last five words of the paragraph.]

[European Community: Delete from "and should include" to the end of the sentence.]

3. Transfer of environmentally sound technologies for cooperation and capacity-building

70. The transfer of environmentally sound technologies, cooperation and capacity-building is a crucial process for achieving sustainable development in small island developing States. In particular, the promotion of access to environmentally sound technologies is a key requirement for enhancing the endogenous capacity of small island developing States.

[Iceland: After the words "and capacity-building" add the following:

..., including technological cooperation among small island developing States and the development and use of indigenous technology, ...]

71. In the context of small island developing States, there is a particular need to focus on the dissemination of information regarding available technology; improving the endogenous capacity of small island developing States to absorb, manage and utilize environmentally sound technologies through, *inter alia*, education and training; and promoting, facilitating and financing access to and the transfer of environmentally sound technologies, including state-of-the-art technology, as well as corresponding know-how on concessional and preferential terms.

[United States: After the words "and promoting, facilitating and financing" add the following:

... as appropriate, access to and transfer of environmentally sound technologies and corresponding know-how, in particular to developing countries, on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights as well as the special needs of developing countries for the implementation of Agenda 21.]

72. The fulfilment by the developed countries and the international organizations of measures described in paragraph 34.18 of Agenda 21 is also of critical importance to small island developing States.

[United States: Replace the words "the developed countries" with the word "Governments".]

(a) Information

73. The establishment of collaborative networks of subregional and regional research and information systems, in particular, mechanisms to facilitate access by small island developing States to information should be supported.

74. Information on environmental emergencies that may result from poor or inappropriate application of technologies and early warning information aimed at preventing natural and environmental disasters should be disseminated.

75. The focal point for small island developing States within the secretariat of the Commission on Sustainable Development could, in coordination with relevant United Nations agencies, including regional scientific and technical bodies, serve as a central data bank for information exchange on available technologies, modalities for their acquisition, and technical cooperation programmes relating to the special needs of small island developing States.

[Australia: Replace paragraph 75 with:

A data bank should be established on technology suitable for small island developing States. The establishment of this data bank should be considered by the Inter-sessional Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Technology Transfer and Cooperation of the Commission on Sustainable Development. It should be the responsibility of an appropriate operational agency.]

(b) Capacity-building

76. The national capacities of small island developing States to assess, manage, absorb and utilize new technologies should be strengthened. In this context, the existing administrative infrastructure would have to be strengthened so as to train personnel at all levels and educate the end-users of these technologies.

77. Small island developing States should cooperate among themselves and with other developing countries that are in a position to do so with a view to developing and improving environmentally sound technologies. The international community should extend its full support to initiatives aimed at promoting technology cooperation and capacity-building among small island developing States and other developing countries.

(c) Finance

78. Bilateral and multilateral donors should increase their financial support at the national, regional and international level for activities that are designed to promote and facilitate the transfer of environmentally sound technologies and capacity-building to small island developing States.

[United States: After the words "donors should" insert the words "endeavour to".]

4. Environmental legislation and training

79. International environmental law is an increasingly complex subject which requires careful analysis with respect to its applicability to various bodies of national law. Regional and international programmes to enhance the capacity of

small island developing States to develop and implement appropriate national environmental legislation are very important. This should include support for training in all aspects of environmental law, including, where applicable, customary law.

[New Zealand: Delete the last sentence of paragraph 79. Add at the end of the paragraph the following text:

This should include support for small island developing States:

- in national efforts to implement international agreements or instruments;
- to enable them to participate effectively in the negotiation of new or revised agreements or instruments;
- for training in all aspects of environmental law including, where applicable, customary law.]

[Iceland: Elements of subsection 3 (Technology transfer), and subsection 4 (Environmental legislation and training), which deal with national and regional actions should be moved to section A (National implementation) and section B (Regional implementation), respectively.]

5. Institutional arrangements

[80. A specific international mechanism will be necessary to direct the substantial resources required to address effectively the specific needs and concerns of small island developing States.]

[Australia and Iceland: Delete paragraph 80.]

[New Zealand: Replace paragraph 80 with the following:

A specific international mechanism will be necessary to ensure that all available resources are effectively applied to address the specific needs and concerns of small island developing States.]

[81. The focal point for the Conference which has been established within the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the United Nations Secretariat should be strengthened, with specialized expertise and resources to research and respond to the specialized sustainable development needs of small island developing States, and should be given overall responsibility to monitor United Nations implementation of agreements and commitments emanating from the Conference.]

[Australia: Replace paragraph 81 with the following:

A position should be allocated within the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the United Nations Secretariat to assist with the implementation of the Conference outcomes. This position would:

- act as liaison and focal point between United Nations agencies, regional commissions and Governments on implementation of the Conference outcomes;

- coordinate United Nations system-wide activity in relation to the implementation of the Conference outcomes;

- prepare appropriate reports for the Commission on Sustainable Development on United Nations system-wide implementation of the Conference outcomes.]

[European Community: Delete paragraph 81.]

82. During each substantive session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, the report of the focal point to the Commission on international follow-up to the recommendations emanating from the Conference should address those items of the programme of action that are pertinent to the Commission's current agenda.

[Australia: Delete paragraph 82 and insert paragraphs 87 and 88 from section D (Monitoring and review).]

[Iceland: Move paragraphs 81 and 82, in reverse order, to section D (Monitoring and review).]

83. The relevant programmes being carried out by the United Nations system and the relevant regional and multinational organizations in the regions and individual countries should be recognized, consolidated and expanded or rationalized, as appropriate. Initiatives to promote economies of scale through integration should also be encouraged. Where applicable, the common objectives of members of regional integration arrangements should be taken into account.

[84. Focal points for small island developing States should be established within specialized agencies having expertise and mandates in particular areas of the programme of action.]

[Australia: Add the following new paragraph after paragraph 84:

Donors should utilize appropriate international coordination mechanisms to focus attention on the special needs of small island developing States.]

6. Vulnerability index

85. Small island developing States, together with national, regional and international organizations and research centres, should continue work on the development of a vulnerability index and other indicators that reflect the status of small island developing States and integrate ecological fragility and economic vulnerability.

86. In this respect, [the relevant international organizations] could utilize their capacity to support the development of the index.

D. Monitoring and review

87. In addition to the direct monitoring and review of results by the development assistance agencies and countries concerned, there will be regular, ongoing monitoring and review at the global level by the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the United Nations Secretariat. Within the Department, a unit within the focal point, with a monitoring and review capacity, should be established to gather financial and programmable information on activities supporting the sustainable development of small island developing States. This unit will monitor and review the implementation of the outcomes of the Conference and of Agenda 21.

> [Canada: After the words "global level by the" add the words "Commission on Sustainable Development supported by the".
>
> In the second sentence of paragraph 37, delete from "Within the Department" to "be established to" and add the following in its place: "In fulfilling this objective, the Department should ..."
>
> Delete the last sentence of paragraph 37 and add the following:
>
> The Department should also support the Commission on Sustainable Development in its monitoring and review of the implementation of the outcomes of the Conference in conjunction with its review of relevant programme areas under Agenda 21.]

[88. A second Conference within five years, convened in accordance with chapter 17.G of Agenda 21, will undertake a comprehensive review of the degree of success in enhancing the sustainable development of small island developing States, with recommendations, where necessary, for amending the programme of action and providing means of implementing it.]

> [Australia: Replace paragraphs 87 and 88 with the following:
>
> A full review of the implementation of Conference outcomes should be undertaken by the Commission on Sustainable Development in [date to be determined]. In preparation for this review, the Secretary-General should report annually to the Commission on the implementation of the programme of action. The Secretary-General's report should include a report on system-wide coordination and reports from the relevant regions. The Commission on Sustainable Development should include on its agenda an item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States".]
>
> [Iceland: Delete paragraphs 87 and 88.]

Notes

1/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), resolution 1, annex II.

2/ Ibid., annex I.

3/ See United Nations Environment Programme, Convention on Biological Diversity (Environmental Law and Institutions Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

4/ Official Records of the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, vol. XVII (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.V.3), document A/CONF.62/122.

5/ UNEP/WG.190/4.

6/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1046, No. 15749, p. 120.

7/ See Protocol of 1978 Relating to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973 (United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1340, No. 22484).

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